

Still fighting for gays in the military  
SLDN continues work to overturn DADT;  
local benefit set for Sun. on Treasure Island.  
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Remembering Gwen  
Touching tribute for  
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Making the minimum  
Sharon Lockwood is 'Nickel  
and Dime'd' at Brava.  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 41 • 9 October 2003

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971



Rick Gerhart

## An artsy Castro Street Fair

A new component of this year's 30th annual Castro Street Fair was 'Sugar Valley,' a space for underground artists and others to have fun. Above, Sugar Valley denizens 'Flower Frankenstein' (left) and Jew Spinoso toss a doughnut in the ring toss during the October 5 fair. Steve Gaynes, president of the Castro Street Fair board, told the Bay Area Reporter that while attendance - and this year's rain - was down slightly this year, there were no problems and fairgoers had an enjoyable time. Gaynes also noted that the tribute to Sylvester was 'fantastic' and credited producer Richard Wornat for the success of the main stage.

## Davis recalled, Schwarzenegger wins

by Matthew S. Bajko

Californians terminated Governor Gray Davis Tuesday, October 7 after five years in office and sent actor-turned-politician Arnold Schwarzenegger to Sacramento.

As of Wednesday morning, with 99 percent of precincts reporting, the recall won in a landslide, garnering 54 percent of the vote compared to 45 percent against the measure. More than 4.2 million voters cast ballots to remove Davis from office, while nearly 3.5 million were willing to give him a chance to fill out the remainder of his term. Davis had won a second four-year term as governor less than a year ago by barely defeating conservative Republican Bill Simon.

Among the 135 candidates running to replace Davis, Schwarzenegger received 48 percent of the vote, with more than 3.6 million voters willing



Governor-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger

to give the political novice a chance at running the largest state in the union and the world's fifth largest economy. Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante, who entered the race against the wishes of Davis as the Democratic replacement candidate, couldn't compete with the former Mr. Universe. He received only 32 percent of the vote.

After calling Schwarzenegger to offer his con-

page 11 ►

## Families are urged to come out

by Matthew S. Bajko

Every year on October 11 the gay community urges gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people to come out of the closet and proclaim their sexuality or gender identities to family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. By coming out, the argument goes, people will be able to live happier, and healthier, lives.

Also underlying this push for the disclosure of one's sexual orientation is the notion that there is strength in numbers. The LGBT community's power to create change can only improve, activists argue, as more people publicly acknowledge they are queer.

The message of this year's 15th annual National Coming Out Day is no exception. But organizers have taken the concept one step further and are encouraging not only individuals, but entire families, to come out of the closet together.

As the issues of gay marriage and legal rights for gay families take center stage in America's political debates, the organizers of coming out day festivities on October 11 have wrapped their message with the theme "It's A Family Affair."

"One of the things that inspired us to have families coming out be our theme this year is someone who knows someone who is queer is more likely to be supportive of gay rights. And when it comes time to vote, they will vote for a candidate who supports

page 21 ►

## Mayoral candidates make solving homelessness a priority

by Zak Szymanski

With the recall election now over, San Franciscans are free to focus on the upcoming mayoral election to be held Tuesday, November 4.

In the last mayoral election in 1999, homelessness barely made the campaign radar until then-Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano surprised everyone by making the runoff, forcing front-runner and eventual winner Mayor Willie Brown to acknowledge his failure to address the issue.

Since then, many politicians have addressed aspects of homelessness. Supervisor Gavin Newsom in 2002 introduced Care Not

Cash, which sought to cut welfare payments to about 2,500 homeless San Franciscans and replace that money with housing and services. Fifty-nine percent of the voters approved the initiative last November, but a superior court judge ruled it unconstitutional this spring and a lack of city funds for the proposed services compelled a majority of supervisors to reject its implementation.

Ammiano, in response to Newsom's Proposition N, introduced his own measure last November in the form of Proposition O, Exits from Homelessness, which would have required the city to add more services before it cut welfare checks. It was rejected by voters.

As the months progressed, even those not running for mayor proposed solutions; Su-

pervisor Chris Daly introduced "Real Housing, Real Care," which Brown signed into law in July. The plan provides services and stable housing and allows cash grants to be cut as these services are provided.

Mayoral candidate and city Treasurer Susan Leal, whose own financial management skills are credited with allowing the city's investments to grow despite the difficult economic climate - has come out in support of Daly's plan as sound policy, although she has emphasized it is just one piece of the puzzle.

Other mayoral candidates, whether or not they support the plans of Newsom, Daly, or Ammiano, have devised their own platforms to sell to the voters come November. And un-

page 16 ►



Jane Philomeno/Cland

From left, mayoral candidates Gavin Newsom, Tom Ammiano, and Susan Leal toss out the ceremonial pitches at the opening day of the Gay Softball League's 30th season in March.

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# Hill released from jail pending trial

by Cynthia Laird

Over objections from prosecutors, former San Francisco Health Commissioner Ronald Gene Hill was released from jail Thursday, October 2 by Superior Court Judge Kay Tsenin as he awaits trial on two charges that he intentionally infected two ex-lovers with HIV.

Tsenin imposed several conditions on Hill, who is living with AIDS, including forbidding him to take part in any online chat room discussions. Hill was released under the supervised pre-trial release program, and must phone in every day to a program staffer. If Hill is unable to phone in due to his medical condition, his aunt must place the call, Tsenin ordered.

Hill, 46, returned to his home in Grass Valley last week. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges. If convicted, he could face up to eight years in prison. He was arrested last month following indictment by a San Francisco grand jury.

It was through the Internet that Hill met Thomas Lister, the San Francisco man who went to the authorities, accusing Hill of intentionally infecting him with HIV after repeatedly telling Lister that he was HIV-negative. Hill was public about his HIV status when he was appointed to the Health Commission by Mayor Willie Brown in 1997. He resigned from the commission in October 2000 after he was arrested on suspicion of writing bad checks at a Sonoma County furniture store.

Lister, 36, maintains that he discovered Hill was HIV-positive while the pair was on a cruise five months into their relationship. He received word from his doctor in late October 2000 that he had become HIV-positive.

During last week's court hearing, Assistant District Attorney Greg Barge objected to Hill's release and sought to have Hill remain in jail. Tsenin had already reduced Hill's bail to \$40,000 from \$100,000 following an earlier court hearing.

But Hill's attorney, Deputy

Public Defender Peter Fitzpatrick, told the court that his client needed to be closer to his doctors for medical treatment. He also told the court that Hill presently does not have a computer or Internet accounts. ▼

## Clarification

In last week's story, "Bail reduced in Ron Hill case as credibility questions surface," it was incorrectly reported that Thomas Lister participated in more than one adult movie in the paragraph that stated deputy Public Defender Peter Fitzpatrick "... produced copies of information about the movies, made by Treasure Island Media. One film is entitled Swallow and the other is entitled Animals." As Lister himself stated later in the same article, he participated in an adult movie. We regret any confusion.



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Knight gets OK to collect signatures to overturn AB205

by Cynthia Laird

The California secretary of state's office on October 2 cleared the way for signatures to be gathered for a referendum by state Senator William "Pete" Knight (R-Palmdale) and Assemblyman Ray Haynes (R-Riverside) to overturn AB205, the Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act that was signed into law by Governor Gray Davis last month.

The proponents have 90 days to collect 373,816 valid signatures in order to qualify the measure for placement on the ballot. If successful, the referendum would be before voters in the March 2004 election.

AB205 does not go into effect until January 2005. It grants almost all of the rights, responsibilities, and benefits to same-sex couples that are available to married couples.

Democratic legislators and LGBT activists blasted Knight's latest move. In 2000, Knight sponsored Proposition 22, which was approved by voters and defines marriage in the state as between a man and a woman. Within days of Davis signing AB205 on Septem-

ber 19, Knight filed a suit in superior court that also challenges the law.

Knight maintains that the new law is a backdoor to override Proposition 22. Before signing the legislation, Davis told reporters that the Office of Legislative Counsel had determined that AB205 does not violate Proposition 22.

"Republican legislators are quickly becoming the kings of sour grapes," said Assemblyman Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood). "Whatever they cannot achieve through a normal democratic process will now be subjected to costly initiative and recall campaigns. They are quickly driving California into a political culture so partisan that our state may become ungovernable."

Geoff Kors, executive director of Equality California, a statewide

LGBT lobbying group that helped sponsor AB205, called Republican legislators "hypocritical" for their stand on so-called family values.

"To say that they support family values while they are aggressively working to take rights away from California families is incredibly hypocritical," Kors said in a statement.

Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) said Wednesday morning that he's confident in the community's ability to fight the signature gathering drive.

"I'm very confident that with the necessary hard work, we will beat it back," Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "My confidence comes from the strong support for domestic partners revealed in polling, as well as exit polls last night."

Knight's latest move is just another page 22 ►

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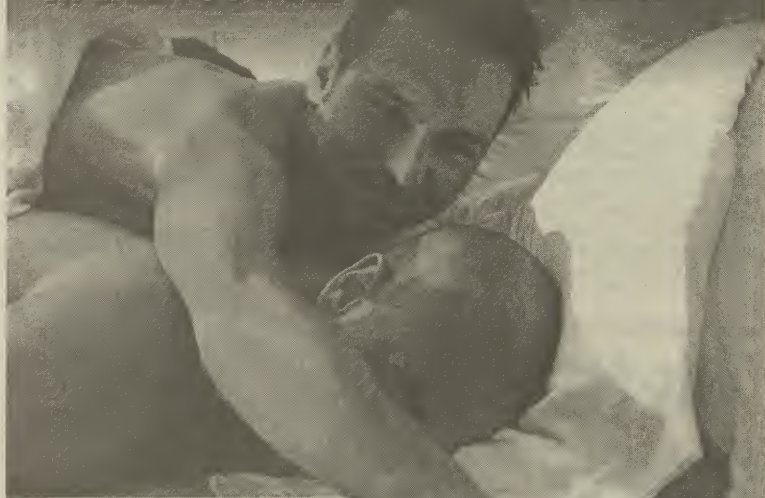
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# Asian Wellness Center throws fundraiser

by Matthew S. Bajko

The Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center invites supporters to enter into the "Belly of the Dragon" for a true Asian experience.

The event, the health and education center's fourth annual fall fundraiser, includes dinner, a show, and dancing at AsiaSF, a restaurant and nightclub in the South of Market District.

Dubbed, the "AsiaSF experi-

ence," the evening will feature radio host St. John of Wild 94.9, D.J.s David Harness, Ruben Mancias, Troy Anicete, and Mr. San Francisco Leather 2003. The evening will also feature a live auction of a Piaggio motor scooter donated by Rockridge Two Wheels in Oakland.

Founded in 1987 as a grassroots response to APIs living with or at risk for HIV/AIDS, the API Wellness Center helps to educate, support, empower, and advocate for San Francisco's burgeoning

gay Asian community. Located on Polk Street, the wellness center is the oldest nonprofit organization in North America targeting API communities around sexual health and HIV/AIDS services.

Tickets for the event cost \$250 and include both dinner and entrance into the dragon-themed afterparty. AsiaSF is located at the corner of 9th and Harrison streets.

For event information, contact Jimmy Ho at (415) 292-3420, ext. 313. ▼

# PRC gala set for Tues.

by Peter Meredith

Positive Resource Center's sixth annual gala will raise funds for the organization, which is making a financial comeback after funding losses in late 2001.

PRC will hold its "Paradise Found" gala on Tuesday, October 14, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at Mecca Restaurant, 2029 Market Street in San Francisco. The evening will feature Latin band Más Que Nada, a silent auction, dancing, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, and an awards ceremony for supporters of the center.

"The spirit of the event is to create a sense of warmth and celebration for clients and supporters of the PRC," said Executive Director Brett Andrews. "We're emerging from a challenging time, and this lush evening will serve as a 'thank you' to our community supporters and funders."

The center will use the evening to honor its outstanding supporters, including the San Francisco Foundation, local charity producer Harry Lit, the Tom Waddell Health Center, and the California Department of Rehabilitation. State legislators from the California LGBT Caucus will attend as honorary chairpeople of the event, which is expected to draw 250 people.

PRC is also celebrating its im-

proved financial stability. The agency, which serves HIV-positive individuals through benefits counseling and employment services, began to see trouble two years ago. In December 2001 the agency announced that it had failed to renew a \$750,000 Department of Education grant, prompting it to lay off five of its then 26 employees. The agency was left with a \$100,000 debt in a time of economic downturn.

Now, according to Andrews, PRC "is certainly solvent and operating in the black. We addressed our \$100,000 debt in the first two quarters of 2003, and have secured additional funding."

Since Andrews started as executive director in February, the agency has won a \$25,000 grant from the Wallis Foundation and a \$39,266 grant from the Private Industry Council of San Francisco, a nonprofit that provides employment, training, and research services to employers and job seekers. Additionally, the San Francisco Department of Public Health

increased its support to PRC from \$112,000 to \$140,000.

The agency is now hiring for three new positions, including a benefits counseling attorney, a full-time computer instructor, and a second service coordinator, expanding the number of clients it can serve.

The organization is also working on a five-year strategic plan. "We're looking at the emerging needs of our communities and at the philanthropic landscape to create a map for the future so we don't find ourselves in a situation like we did," said Andrews.

PRC will hold two open board meetings where the public is welcome to discuss the plan. The meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22 and Wednesday, November 26 at the agency's offices at 973 Market Street.

Tickets for Tuesday's gala are \$100 and can be purchased at the door. For information on strategic planning, open positions, or the gala, call (415) 972-0872 or visit [www.positiveresource.org](http://www.positiveresource.org). ▼

# LYRIC hosts young women's health conference

by Matthew S. Bajko

The health needs of young queer women will be the focus of an all-day conference set to take place next weekend. The ninth annual gathering hosted by the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, this year's Young Queer Women's Health Conference has been dubbed "Where the Girls ... Are."

Created by young women for young women, the free event will feature community-led workshops and peer presentations on health and wellness topics ranging from safer sex practices and the importance of breast exams, to nutritional information.

"There are other mainstream health fairs that meet the needs of straight women, as well as health fairs that serve the needs of an adult lesbian population," explained Kristin Wygal, LYRIC's young women coordinator. "But there are no forums like this that meet the unique needs of young

queer women."

Like all LYRIC programming, the Young Women's Health Conference is peer led and organized. Young women from the community are involved in all aspects of producing the conference including program development, audience outreach, and workshop presentations. Support for the conference comes in part from the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women and the Women's Foundation: Sisterhood Fund.

All youth under 25 who self-identify as female are welcome to attend. Lunch will be provided. Advance registration is requested but not required.

The health conference will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, October 18 at the San Francisco LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street.

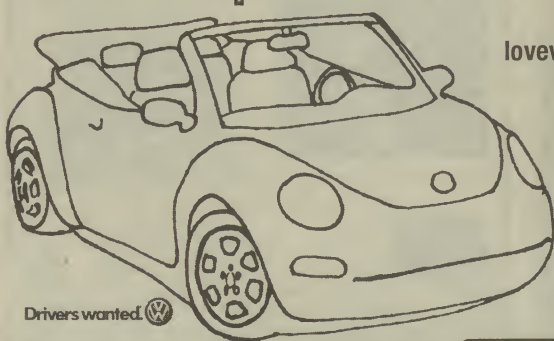
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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# St. James Infirmary 'tit-art' benefit Tuesday

by Liz Highleyman

On Tuesday, October 14, the new Polk Street Good Vibrations store will host a sex-worker tit-art extravaganza to benefit the St. James Infirmary.

Four generations of sex film stars – including Dara Lynn Dahl, Veronica Hart, Nina Hartley, C.J. Laing, Shayla LaVeaux, Carol Queen, and Annie Sprinkle – will make fine art paintings using their breasts and other body parts. Guests can take home their own print – sure to become a collector's item – for the \$25 admission price. Additional prints can be purchased for \$25-50, with all proceeds benefiting the clinic.

The benefit offers the opportunity to "munch on delicious 'whore-dourves' as you mingle with the beautiful people from the infirmary and its 'naughty' nurses," according to organizers. Celebrity hickies and Polaroids with the stars are also promised. As an added bonus, Good Vibrations, located at 1620 Polk Street, will be open for shopping during the event.

"We promise you this will be a unique and smashing event," vowed Sprinkle, a St. James board member.

The St. James Infirmary, founded in June 1999, serves female, male, and transgender workers in all areas of the sex in-



Annie Sprinkle

dust, including prostitutes, escorts, massage providers, BDSM professionals, and adult film actors. It is the first occupational safety and health clinic run by sex workers for sex workers.

"The clinic is really revolutionary because the decisions about what kind of care is needed and how it's going to be delivered aren't being made by a guy in a suit a thousand miles away," said Johanna Breyer, director of social services. "They're being made by the people who need the health care."

The clinic offers primary medical and gynecological care; acupuncture and chiropractic care; HIV, hepatitis, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted disease testing and counseling; substance

abuse counseling and treatment; peer support groups and individual counseling; health, legal, and social service referrals; and a monthly harm reduction group. It also has an apprenticeship program for current, former, and transitioning sex workers. New this fall: a free smoking cessation program, provided in cooperation with the University of California at San Francisco.

The infirmary holds drop-in hours on Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. at the City Clinic, 356 7th Street between Folsom and Harrison. All services are free and confidential.

Can't make Tuesday's benefit, but still want to help? As of October 1, the St. James Infirmary is a beneficiary of Community Thrift's donation program. Donations made at the 623 Valencia Street store can be designated to support the clinic's services. ▼

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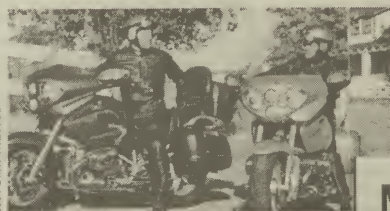
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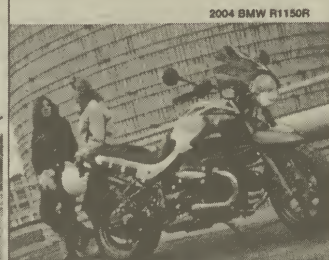
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## Gavin Newsom for mayor

San Francisco voters can now start focusing on the mayoral election that is set for November 4. With Mayor Willie Brown in the final days of his administration, the change in leadership in January is important to the future of the city: We believe the person best suited for the job is Supervisor Gavin Newsom.

Newsom started his campaign for mayor last year, when his Care Not Cash initiative was approved by a majority of voters. San Franciscans passed the measure with nearly 60 percent of the vote, because they were tired of inaction by the Board of Supervisors and the unsuccessful attempts of previous mayors to get a grip on the homeless crisis. While the initiative was thrown out by a superior court judge earlier this year, Newsom deserves much credit for bringing the issue to the forefront of local politics and has not backed down from his conviction that drastic change in city policy is in order to help get people off the streets.

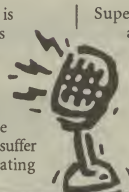
Newsom believes that the time has come for new ideas in making San Francisco a better city for all. And he is fighting for a housing policy that will, in his words, "break the deadlock" and create 10,000 new units of housing in the next four years. Housing is a critical component to helping the homeless, and his initiative will also generate new jobs, new city revenue, and new opportunities to require developers to fund civic improvements such as transit and open space, and new homes affordable to working San Franciscans.

Finding a workable solution for the city's homeless is the top issue in the mayor's race. Newsom recognizes that, and has worked over the years to improve the conditions of single resident occupancy hotels, among other solutions.

Another important part of addressing the homeless issue is increasing treatment for those dealing with substance abuse and men-

tal health challenges, and Newsom is committed to those components as well. He strongly supports substance abuse treatment on demand and helped secure funding for treating mental illness. We believe that San Franciscans recognize that those living on the streets often suffer from drug addiction and debilitating mental illnesses, and reasonable people would agree that services should be provided to help them seek and remain in treatment programs.

We recognize that there are qualified gay candidates seeking the mayor's office, however, we reject the identity politics that dictate the LGBT community must vote for an LGBT candidate. Since joining the Board of



Editorial

Supervisors (first as a mayoral appointee and then winning re-election), Newsom has been a steadfast supporter of the LGBT community. He voted for transgender health benefits for city employees, has advocated for domestic partner rights and is in favor of gay marriage, and has supported city funding for the queer youth shelter program. He has consistently supported HIV research and prevention programs, and, as a private citizen, has donated financially to numerous HIV/AIDS service organizations.

San Francisco needs a strong mayor who can get a handle on the challenges facing this city. We recommend readers vote for Gavin Newsom on November 4. ▼



## Proposition H: Real reform

by Robert Haaland and  
Christopher Daley

This November 4, Proposition H offers San Francisco voters a historic opportunity to substantially reform oversight of the Police Department by strengthening the Office of Citizen Complaints and the San Francisco Police Commission. Proposition H enhances the ability of the OCC to investigate and charge police officers who abuse their power and the public's trust. It also takes politics out of police oversight by diversifying the appointment power and composition of the commission.

As our community heads toward the 25th anniversary of the White Night riots, we do not need to remind you of the consequences of out of control police officers in our neighborhoods. While the SFPD no longer believes that it can, en masse, occupy the Castro, too many members of our community remain at risk of being assaulted or harassed by individual officers and department practices that target whole groups of people based on stereotypes and prejudices.

For instance, many transgender people have experienced firsthand the devastation that such officers can inflict. In Community United Against Violence's annual hate crimes reports, law enforcement officers are named as the perpetrators in a disproportionate number of complaints from transgender people (50 percent of perpetrators were law enforcement officers in 2000 and 30 percent in 2002). (The national hate violence reports, containing CUAV's data, are available at [www.avp.org](http://www.avp.org).) Trans Realities, a new report from the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the Transgender Law Center, found that 1 in 4 survey respondents report being harassed or abused by a police officer. (Trans Realities can be found at [www.transgenderlawcenter.org](http://www.transgenderlawcenter.org).)

A majority of San Francisco police officers are hard-working, law-abiding public servants. When misconduct by a small number of officers goes unpunished, it threatens public safety and tarnishes the reputation of many good officers. Proposi-

tion H improves policing and protects the reputation of the vast majority of officers by ensuring that appropriate action is taken against officers who engage in serious misconduct.

Currently, San Francisco's system for investigating and disciplining the officers responsible for misconduct is broken. In April, the OCC, at the request of the Board of Supervisors, released a scathing report detailing the significant lack of cooperation and basic respect they receive from the SFPD in investigating complaints of misconduct. (The report is available for review at [www.sfgov.org/site/occ\\_index.asp](http://www.sfgov.org/site/occ_index.asp).) And, in 2002 alone, over 20 complaints had to be dismissed simply because the chief of police did not act on OCC recommendations for discipline within one year of the date of the incident, as the city is required to do.

That means that over 20 people who believe they were abused by police officers wasted their time and energy filing a complaint with the city agency responsible for protecting them from police misconduct. It also means that the officers named, each of whom the OCC's investigations revealed to have committed some form of misconduct, were never disciplined for their actions nor given the training needed to prevent reoccurring misconduct.

Proposition H remedies these barriers to effective police oversight. First, it makes clear that the SFPD is lawfully required to fully participate in OCC investigations. Second, and most significantly, Proposition H allows the OCC to bring recommendations directly to the commission if the police chief is not going to act within the one-year deadline. Both of these common-sense reforms will drastically improve the ability of the OCC to carry out its mission.

In addition to improving the OCC, Proposition H reforms the commission. The commission has historically lacked the independence from the mayor necessary to act on systemic failings of the police depart-

ment. In recent memory, the commission, all of whose members were appointed by the mayor and serve at his discretion, has failed to follow up on a number of basic requests for investigations into systemic and specific examples of SFPD breakdown.

Following well researched model policies from other cities, Proposition H will increase the number of commissioners from five to seven and divide the appointment power for these commissioners between the mayor and the Board of Supervisors. Opponents of Proposition H would have you believe that the division of appointments is a "power grab" by the Board of Supervisors. However, as the *San Francisco Chronicle* wrote in a recent editorial, "the fact is that the mayor appoints the Chief and the Police Commission feeds public perception of an insular agency incapable of disciplining itself."

Proposition H is a much needed solution to the breakdown in SFPD oversight that has allowed over 20 rogue officers to walk away from serious charges of misconduct undisciplined and untrained. Proposition H is about accountability, not politics. Its common sense solutions will insure that ethical police officers are better able to carry out their duties to make our communities safer.

On November 4, we urge you to join a wide-array of voices from the LGBT community, including the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, Community United Against Violence, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, the Transgender Law Center, Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, Assemblyman Mark Leno, Supervisor Tom Amiano, and Treasurer Susan Leal, in supporting Proposition H. Real reform, right now! ▼

Robert Haaland is president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club; Christopher Daley is co-director of the Transgender Law Center.

Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Mayor Brown's pettiness

The *Bay Area Reporter* recently reported that Mayor Willie Brown's reason for not reappointing Mark Dunlop to the CARE Council was "political, and personal" ["Mayor axes Dunlop from HIV Care Council," September 25]. Brown's vindictiveness is an affront not only to those with HIV/AIDS, but to those who remain negative.

The mayor's spinmeister, P.J. Johnston, claimed in the June 12 issue of the *B.A.R.* that the mayor had an "ardent commitment" to maintaining AIDS policy issues. Johnston, and the mayor, simply don't get it: if Brown is going to have a commitment to maintaining AIDS policy issues, he shouldn't have left the so-called AIDS-czar to the mayor position vacant for fully two years, and he shouldn't now be punishing both Dunlop and the AIDS communities Dunlop represents, because his ego was bruised when Dunlop stood up to him over a mere affordable housing project in the South of Market.

The mayor's pettiness that he hasn't been afforded a "sufficient" level of respect (which sufficiency level may rise or fall on any given day) is no reason to punish both Dunlop and those whom Dunlop represents.

Johnston fans the flames citing the mayor's "perceived personal affront," but the difference between "perceived" and "real" personal affronts is an insufficient excuse for Brown to refuse reappointing Dunlop to the CARE Council.

If Supervisor Tom Ammiano proves inept at brokering a resolution to have Dunlop reappointed to the council quickly, Ammiano has no business mounting another doomed race to become mayor.

Patrick Monette-Shaw  
San Francisco

## Appreciates leather coverage

My congratulations to the *Bay Area Reporter* for the last two issues (#39 and #40) and each issue with your leather coverage. Finally, the leather community and all its good work has been prominently shown for all your readers here and beyond.

My special congratulations for having the "Dean of Leather Columnists," Mister Marcus, on your staff these many years. He has never failed to make us look good. No other publication that I know of has such extensive coverage of the leather community, both here in San Francisco and around the known world. And having had small conversations with him, he's a neat, friendly guy who cares for his leather brothers and sisters.

I have lived here in San Francisco for 10 years now and having lived in many other major urban areas, the *B.A.R.* is the only paper that gives the leather community a fair and unbiased evaluation. You are to be commended for your attention to all facets of the community. Keep up the good work. And to Mister Marcus, thanks for always being there.

Terence Urzendowski  
San Francisco

## Grease it and bend over

I understand the Folsom Street Fair "donates" approximately \$300,000 each year to humanitarian causes.

I also understand that the Castro Street Fair board "donates" money to MUMC [Merchants of Upper Market and Castro] to maintain our community rainbow flag.

My, my, my, that's a very generous thing to do as they rip off this community in the name of Harvey Milk and Sylvester.

Oh, I nearly forgot to mention I read the Castro Street Fair board gives back approximately \$60,000 to the GLBT organizations that are "allowed to earn" their money the day of the fair.

Their generosity overwhelms me.

Frank Nelson  
San Francisco

## Worried about mayor's race

I do not live in San Francisco any longer but I did for 20-plus years and my heart is still there and always shall be. I wept through the murders of George Moscone and Harvey Milk and walked in many demonstrations to the Civic Center from the Castro, really enjoying my gay freedom in that wonderful city. I am now frightened that the mayoral race will give the city a man that does not understand what, who, and why San Francisco is the special place in the world for gay men and women. He does not understand that we helped to create that "special place" and helped to make the city a world-class "small town" with a world-class symphony, ballet, and opera. We helped give color to the city, we live our lives as we were meant to be, in love and harmony.

I am worried now that the city may be overwhelmed by a money man who is close to being a stranger to us in the huge gay community. This man has shown no compassion for the homeless, poor, or disabled. How many of us could live on \$59 a month?

How many of us would be able to struggle to a center for a bed, a center for sickness? I have to look on Gavin Newsom as an "outsider" that only comes and goes to supervisor meetings as expected, to his businesses on Union Street, and to his home in Pacific Heights where he can escape the real San Francisco of thousands of dreams. Our city, and its dreamers, its citizens who have fought so hard for gay rights for all of the world's searching children and young adults, looking for a life they deserve. San Francisco has opened the doors and offers the true American dream of freedom. Why do we need a change? We can do our "housekeeping" in a more humane way than taking from those that are not in touch with themselves, but San Francisco has always done that - allowed the lost to find a home, and helping them find that home. There is no other city that can even come close to "our dream."

Elections are soon so remember Harvey Milk, George Moscone, and the thousands that have lived in happiness. We, as gay men and women, bisexual, and transgender, should "thank San Francisco" for giving meaning to our lives and our loves. Please think about this election and do ask yourselves why does Gavin Newsom always ask "Are you ready for a change?"

Jim Harris  
Oakland, California

## An unenlightened homophobe

Sometimes I am embarrassed to be a human being. How hateful can we get? I refer to Montana Family Coalition Executive Director Julie Millam's recently saying that *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* isn't really a very good show about gay people. "A really good reality show for gay people," she remarked, "would be five gay men dying of AIDS."

I know the First Amendment guarantees the right to free speech, but Ms. Millam has gone too far in exercising that right. She is the most vicious homophobe since Fred Phelps.

I would like to write to this unenlightened human being and give her a piece of my mind. Not that it would do any good, but it sure would make me feel better.

Jim Mariner  
San Francisco

## A poor excuse for a Marine

Ever since Boy with Arms Akimbo decided to grow up and act like an adult and leave town it seems that the so-called gay community has been desperately looking for a replacement hero. Stephen Funk seems to fill the need for somebody who despite age and experience wants to sass the establishment and become a new poster boy for the immature supporters that recently flocked to his defense at a rally.

Consider the following: Funk moved to California with the intention of establishing residency so that he could attend college at a greatly reduced rate similar to many parasitic freeloaders who have put this state in its present dire financial condition without ever having contributed to its tax base or well-being.

He then joined the Marines and after finding out it wasn't what he had hoped for opted to change his mind and announce himself as a conscientious objector with an insurance rider that he is also gay. Now I personally don't know if he is gay or not as there is no standard test to determine one's gaydom, but to use this as an opportunity to get out of the military is very cowardly indeed.

Funk was not drafted - he enlisted. And he has an obligation and personal honor and duty to fulfill his commitment to the U.S. Marines. Because he left in what might be called a snit fit, he ought to be court-martialed, punished, and thrown out of the service with a bad conduct discharge.

As a member of the Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion, I am one of the servicemen who enlisted and served my time of duty, knowing full well what I got myself into and obeyed orders and regulations until my enlistment had expired. So have many of the others of the American Legion who served honorably and didn't have regrets or problems as Funk sees fit to publicize.

Rather than see him as a hero fighting the establishment, he ought to be considered a poor excuse for a Marine and sent on his way. He is not deserving of all the admiration and honor that is being given.

Andrew J. Betancourt  
San Francisco

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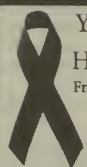
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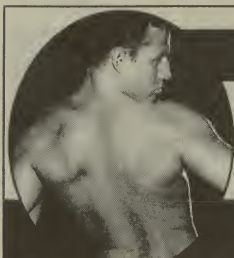


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# Polled in different directions

by Paula Martinac

The ubiquitous Gallup polls examine everything from how Americans rate the president's performance in office to where they stand on same-sex marriage rights. Surprisingly, the polling organization also annually quizzes people with this hypothetical: "If you could have only one child, would you want a boy or a girl, or do you have no preference?" It isn't a new question or one inspired by China's one-child policy, but a query Gallup has been posing since 1941. And while the pollsters surely didn't intend it, the recent results provide a good way to talk about how sexism is intimately connected with heterosexism and homophobia.

Given that feminists have helped changed attitudes toward women during the past three decades, the Gallup numbers are unexpected: the percentage of people stating a preference for a boy (38 percent) hasn't fluctuated at all since Franklin Delano Roosevelt was in the White House. Commenting on this remarkable lack of change, the Gallup editor in chief speculated that the desire to have a son may be genetically rooted, that people may have an innate desire to pass on their genes and "a male can impregnate thousands of women in his lifetime."

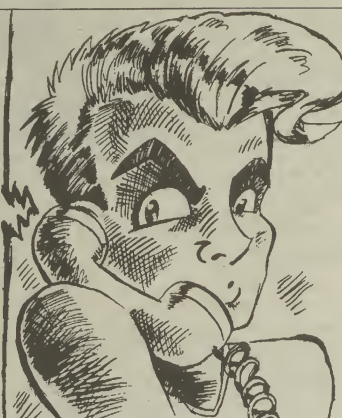
In addition to including this absurd sexist and heterosexist theory, the report I read quoted reactions from parents-to-be about the poll's results. Their comments — which mostly backed up the poll's findings — ran a gamut of stereotypes. Boys like to play catch with their dads, the future parents said, and are the ones to carry on the family name. Girls are more expensive to raise because they like to keep up with the latest fashions and have big weddings. If you believe poll numbers, it's clear from this survey that feminists still have much work ahead of them when it comes to popular ideas about men, women, and gender roles.

So do LGBT activists. Why? Because the poll results hint at why negative attitudes toward gay people have been so slow to change, even as more gay people venture to come out — and at younger ages. Many Americans

Choose one:

A) Boys should play sports and leer at girls. Girls should bake cookies, giggle stupidly, and obsess about their hair.

B) I am a dumb degenerate pervert who agitates for pinko causes like equality and justice.



Cristine Smith

continue to be attached to set notions about how men and women are supposed to act. Conforming to those behaviors is viewed as "normal," and straying from them is hopefully just a phase that kids outgrow. As a result, many parents have done just about everything to make their kids play the gender game. For example, a lesbian friend of mine tells a funny story about being sent to ballet class in order to "femme" up. But her dance teacher seemed to recognize the futility of it and cast her in the male role in the class recital.

Producing even more anxiety than the tomboy is the sissy boy with an interest in his sister's dolls or his mother's makeup; chances are pretty good that he's not going to want to play catch with the old man. Worse than that, though, is the unlikely prospect that he'll impregnate even one woman in his lifetime, let alone thousands — hence betraying his family and its name.

Having a lesbian daughter, then, for many parents, may be bad, but having a gay son is pure heartbreak. Even gay sons who aren't sissies may be major disappointments because they're out there spilling their seed, not sowing it. The Gallup poll results also hint that some straight parents may set themselves up for this shattering disappointment by having heterocentric expectations — based largely on their own experiences — for children who aren't even born yet.

In addition, the poll suggests

why so many gay people also buy into traditional gender roles — we are, after all, simply products of our society. The buttoned-down gay man who looks askance at transfolk and the "professional GF" whose personal ad reads "no butches" have fallen headlong into the same gender trap as many of their heterosexual counterparts. Ironically, these same gay people may complain about homophobia while contributing to it by clinging to oppressive gender roles.

Ideally, the Gallup baby-gender poll would transform itself to meet 21st century realities, challenging people to think beyond gender stereotypes instead of just answering a question formulated by pollsters two generations ago. Don't you wish some pollster had followed up the gender question with one like "And what if your only son turned out to be gay?" But that may be too much to hope for.

Gay men and lesbians, though, can work to break gender ties, not uphold them. We do this by raising kids who aren't expected to conform to gender standards; by learning from the trans movement, which actively works to encourage the rethinking of gender; and finally, by identifying as feminists and recognizing that women's struggles are part of a much larger problem with a direct effect on our ability to achieve our rights. ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of eight books and editor in chief of Q Syndicate. She can be reached care of this publication or at PMcolumn@aol.com.

## TARC supporter honored



Rick Genbarer

The Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center presented its Founders Award to longtime supporter Jay Cohen, left, at its annual benefit Monday, October 6. Assemblyman Mark Leno's sister, Jamie, right, and Leno aide Anna Damiani presented a certificate from the state Assembly to Cohen. Cohen and the Lenos were childhood friends. The agency also honored Abbott Laboratories and the UCSF Positive Health Program. The event included an elaborate musical revue of the Gold Rush, headlined by Juanita More.



## POLITICS

# Homelessness is still the top mayoral issue

by Wayne Friday

Now that the idiotic recall is out of the way, let's take a look at the upcoming race for mayor of San Francisco, a contest that has been pretty much shoved aside during the recall circus.

One of four candidates – Supervisor **Gavin Newsom**, Treasurer **Susan Leal**, Supervisor **Tom Ammiano** or former Supervisor **Angela Alioto** – will almost certainly replace termed-out Mayor **Willie Brown** in January and there are plenty of differences among the four candidates.

I get to talk with a lot of voters and I can tell you with certainty that homelessness in this city still remains the top issue as the November 4 mayoral election approaches. Though San Francisco voters passed Newsom's Care Not Cash initiative (Proposition N) overwhelmingly last year (winning in nine of the 11 supervisorial districts with 60 percent of the vote citywide), a judge later ruled that under state law, only a county board of supervisors, not the voters themselves, could legally set the level of welfare benefits provided by a county. Though this ruling is still being challenged in court,

Newsom took the heart of the Care Not Cash measure to his fellow supervisors recently and six of them – **Fiona Ma**, **Tony Hall**, **Matt Gonzalez**, **Ammiano**, **Chris Daly**, and **Sophie Maxwell** – voted against implementing Proposition N as mandated by the voters. It is only fair, however, to say that a watered-down version was later passed by the board – implementing only about two-thirds of what Newsom's original Care Not Cash had sought. It's fair, too, to point out that only Supervisors **Gonzalez** and **Ammiano** (both mayoral candidates) voted against implementing Care Not Cash in the manner that their respective districts did, while four other supervisors – **Ma**, **Hall**, **Daly**, and **Maxwell** – pretty much thumbed their collective political noses at the wishes of the voters in their districts.

District 7's **Hall**, whose personal dislike for Newsom is so embarrassingly obvious, though he denies it, probably has the most reason to be concerned when he comes up for re-election next year as his district provided some of the strongest support for Care Not Cash when it went to the voters. Surely, voters in District 7 have plenty of reason to look for another candidate next year.

As for what San Francisco voters feel is driving this mayoral race? I can tell you with certainty that the ever-growing homelessness and the aggressive panhandling are right at the top of those issues on the minds of local voters. And while **Ammiano**, **Daly**, and **Gonzalez** can continue with their tricks to kill the meaning of Care Not Cash, it is likely Newsom who will be thanking them after the votes for mayor are counted next month.

To be sure, in an effort to play catch-up politics, **Ammiano** last year offered a better-late-than-



Mayoral candidate Gavin Newsom

never plan with his Proposition O (which was promptly defeated) and last week, during a mayoral debate, **Ammiano**, apparently still feeling the sting of seeing his own homeless plan rejected, attacked Newsom and Proposition N, calling Care Not Cash a "scam," even

going so far as to snap to the audience: "unlike **George Bush** and **Gavin Newsom**, I don't offer simplistic solutions." It was little more than a cheap-shot, low-blow political statement, and he, more than most, should know it. Come up with something truly useful (unlike Proposition O that was itself pretty "simplistic" as perceived by the voters) and maybe, just maybe, you will still have a chance at becoming mayor, Mr. **Ammiano**.

In the meantime, I'm sorry, whether the candidates want to accept it or not, the still-growing homeless problem remains the number one issue on the minds of those living, working, and paying taxes in this city and those of you who only pretend to do something about it are doing nothing more than helping elect Newsom as the next mayor. Newsom remains first in all of the polls mainly due to a well-organized campaign, solid fundraising, and the continuing debate over homelessness and the very fact that he was out in front of the issue with his voter-approved Care Not Cash. Even the *S.F. Weekly*, hardly a proponent of Newsom, said last week that "he's the only mayoral candidate talking substance" about the homeless problem.

## Politics and people

Regarding the above-mentioned mayoral race, workers from the Susan Leal campaign took over the Castro this past weekend with **Alice B. Toklas** LGBT Democratic Club members working hard for Leal and Toklas-endorsed district attorney candidate **Kamala Harris**.

Leal supporters, incidentally, are holding a "birthday celebration" for their candidate (the invite didn't mention which birthday) tonight (Thursday, October 9) at Pier 23 Cafe, on the Embarcadero, from 5:30 p.m. on (\$25 and up donation asked; 415-252-3630 for info).

And speaking of **Kamala Harris**, she, too, was endorsed by the San Francisco Police Department's Pride Alliance at a recent meeting. The Pride Alliance, a group of

LGBT police officers, overwhelmingly endorsed **Harris** in the race for district attorney. A story in last week's *Bay Area Reporter* about Susan Leal getting the group's nod for mayor did not include the information about **Harris**.

Florida Senator **Bob Graham** this week was the first to drop out of the 2004 Democratic presidential race, even before either the Reverend **Al Sharpton** or former Illinois Senator **Carol Moseley Braun**.

And that brings me to a recent quote from the ever-humorous **Sharpton** on the two-year long hunt for **Osama bin Laden**. **Sharpton**: "This guy has more videos out than a rock star, but **George Bush**'s intelligence agencies still can't find him."

And others close to the presidential contest in D.C. say that they're not making fun of **Howard Dean** at the White House anymore. Some nervous Republicans feel that **Dean**, the former Vermont governor, is now so far ahead of his Democratic challengers that he's already chasing those moderates that **Bush** needs to be re-elected and we can look for **Karl Rove** and his operatives to soon begin the negative anti-Dean counterattacks.

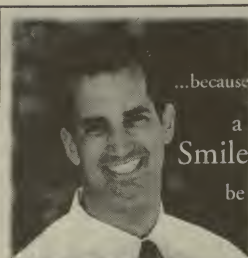
Back to Alice: The LGBT Demo club is holding its annual Alice Awards reception on Wednesday, October 15 in the LGBT Community Center's Ceremonial Room, 6-8 p.m. Assembly Speaker **Herb Wesson** (D-Los Angeles), Assemblyman **Mark Leno** (D-San Francisco), Supervisor **Bevan Dufty** and D.A. candidate **Kamala Harris** will be among the presenters (Members: \$50; non-members: \$75; 415-395-9543 for tix and info).

If the shoes fit: District 8 Supervisor **Bevan Dufty** is challenging Mayor **Willie Brown** to a shoe fight. In order to celebrate the November 1 opening of De La Sole in the Castro, **Dufty** has thrown down the gauntlet, in this case a black Kenneth Cole dress shoe, at fashionista **Brown** to see who can buy the most footwear. No word yet if **Brown** will step up to the plate and try on the duel.

Safety first: Project Open Hand's **Bill Ambrunn** said that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's "Food Safety Mobile" will be in the Safeway parking lot at Church and Market streets this Monday, October 13, from noon to 1:30 p.m. and POH's clients as well as interested residents are welcome to stop by for free food safety information and goodies. Look for a big, blue van. "Food safety is especially important for people with compromised immune systems," **Ambrunn** said.

The latest rumor out of the California GOP is that comedian **Dennis Miller** is thinking of running for public office as a Republican (he's a big "Gropenator" supporter). You've got to hand it to those Republicans who are always bad-mouthing liberal Democratic Hollywood celebs like **Martin Sheen**, **Barbra Streisand**, **Susan Sarandon**, etc., by saying "who cares what they think, they're only Hollywood celebs, etc." but now those Tinseltown Republicans who do dare to come out of their political closet like **Miller**, **Kelsey Grammer**, **Charlton Heston**, and, of

next page ►



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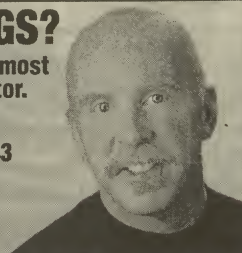
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# Who was Dr. Alan Hart?

by Liz Highleyman

October 1890 (113 years ago this month): Dr. Alan Hart is born in Hall's Summit, Kansas.

Some gay and lesbian historians and activists have classified Dr. Alan Hart, born Alberta Lucille Hart, as a passing woman and a lesbian. But transgender activists have reclaimed the doctor — who underwent one of the first-ever surgeries for sex alteration — as one of their own, exemplifying how notions of queer identity have shifted over time.

Hart was born in Kansas in October 1890. At age 2, after the death of his father, he and his mother moved to Albany, Oregon, to live on his grandparents' farm. When his mother lamented his father's passing, Hart said he would grow up to be a man and take care of her. He later wrote that he thought he could be a boy if only the family would let him cut his hair and wear trousers.

Hart attended Albany College and Stanford University, working as a commercial photographer during vacations. During this time, he took to wearing tailored shirts, jackets, and ties (albeit often with skirts), and frequenting theaters and cabarets, which soon exhausted his modest inheritance. The only woman in the class, Hart obtained a medical degree with top honors from the University of Oregon in 1917.

As a youngster, Hart had developed crushes on several female maids and teachers, and from his teen years onward, he had a series of emotionally and physically intimate relationships with women, always taking on a masculine role. He paid one girlfriend's tuition so she could attend university with him. He later had an affair with a married woman (who called him "Dear Boy"), but she abandoned him for a wealthy, elderly man, saying she lacked the nerve to endure the criticism and ridicule she received as a result of her relationship with Hart.

Feeling conflicted and having more than once contemplated suicide, Hart consulted psychiatrist Dr. J. Allen Gilbert in 1917, ostensibly to deal with a fear of loud noises. Gilbert's case report about Hart — whom he referred to as "H" — was published in the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disorders* in 1920. Gilbert found the prognosis



Dr. Alan Hart

gloomy, writing that Hart "absolutely refused to run any chance of losing her general masculine psychological characteristics." After unsatisfactory attempts at hypnosis and other suggestive therapies, Hart asked Gilbert to help him permanently adopt a male role and proposed a hysterectomy, a course Gilbert eventually agreed seemed "the only rational choice."

In 1918, Hart obtained the surgery, changed his name, adopted full male attire, and "made her exit as a female and started as a male with a new hold on life," according to Gilbert. Having discussed the practical aspects of his transition with "the most competent legal advice obtainable," Hart married Inez Stark (who knew he had been born female) and started a medical practice in Gardiner, Oregon. All went well until he was recognized by a former associate and then, in Gilbert's words, "the hounding process began."

Despite having to hide his past and relocate frequently, Hart managed to build a successful medical career, including public health positions in several states working with tuberculosis patients. Returning to school, he obtained masters' degrees in radiology and public health. Stark left Hart in 1923, and he later married a schoolteacher, Edna Ruddick, a relationship that continued until Hart's death from heart failure in 1962.

Hart also made a name for himself as a writer, publishing a medical text on radiology as well as four novels. The character of a homosexual doctor in his 1936 novel, *The Undaunted*, appears to reflect Hart's own life: "He had been driven from place to place,

from job to job, for fifteen years because of something he could not alter any more than he could change the color of his eyes. Gossip, scandal, rumor always drove him on."

Gay historian Jonathan Ned Katz, who came across Gilbert's case report while researching his pioneering book, *Gay American History*, claimed that "[D]espite the confusion of Dr. Gilbert and 'H' herself about her sexual nature, 'H' is clearly a Lesbian, a woman-loving woman." In Katz's interpretation, Hart wanted to play a male role — not possess a male body — and only had a hysterectomy to relieve his shame about being a lesbian. Katz characterized Gilbert's treatment of Hart as "one more example of the pernicious treatment of Gay people by the medical profession." (Katz later said he would no longer make the same claims.)

At a time when transsexualism and gender dysphoria had not yet been named or defined and hormone therapy was not readily available, Gilbert's treatment of Hart was quite progressive. "[F]rom a sociological and psychological standpoint, she is a man," Gilbert wrote. "Instead of criticism and hounding, she needs and deserves the respect and sympathy of society." The steps taken by Hart to reconcile his birth sex with his gender identity situate him firmly on the transgender spectrum, and the transgender community now counts Hart among its forebears. ▼

**Liz Highleyman is a freelance writer and editor who has written widely on health, sexuality, and politics. She can be reached care of this publication or at PastOut@black-rose.com.**

**Suggested reading**

Booth, Brian. 2000. "Alberta Lucille Hart/Dr. Alan L. Hart: An Oregon Pioneer" (Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission).

www.ochcom.org/hart.html.

Katz, Jonathan Ned. 1976, 1992. *Gay American History: Lesbians and Gay Men in the USA* (Meridian).

O'Hartigan, Margaret Delirdre. 2002. "Alan Hart." In *The Phallus Palace: Female to Male Transsexuals*, edited by Dean Kotula et al. (Alyson).

## Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

course, **Arnold Schwarzenegger** himself, all suddenly feel they are fit for public office.

San Francisco's own **Kevin Shelley**, our secretary of state, is getting on the national political stage thanks to the unprecedented recall election. Shelley, a Democrat and former S.F. supervisor and assemblymember, even had a feature story in last week's *USA Today* complete with photos of his wife and 22-month old son. We could be calling him Governor Shelley one day.

I don't know if they were just being humorous or their drugs had kicked in a little early, but there were a couple of guys on Castro Street last weekend passing out "Matt Ammiano" and "Tom Gonzalez" campaign stickers to

passersby.

Saying it was his way of protesting this week's recall election, San Mateo County Supervisor **Jerry Hill** last week switched his party registration from Republican to Democrat. Hill: "I can no longer align myself with people [Republicans] who represent these extreme points of view."

And despite his showing in Tuesday's recall election, state Senator **Tom McClintock** (R-Thousand Oaks) most certainly walked away with something of a political consolation prize — McClintock is now recognized as a rising star of the national Republican right.

According to the *Sacramento Bee*, a staffer for S.F. Assemblyman **Leland Yee** emerged an unlikely hero during a brief bar brawl at Sacramento's Simon Chan's saloon on 16th street one night recently. The fight — two guys bat-

ting over a woman — was apparently broken up by a "mild-mannered" staff member for Yee. According to the *Bee*, the young Yee staffer grabbed the larger combatant, pitched him into the street, and told him not to come back. "Like a real pro," observed one patron. "Actually, I've never done that before," said the staffer, who asked not to be named. "I come to Simon's to relax; I don't want to see any fist fights." According to the *Bee*, the staffer's drinks were on the house the rest of the night.

And finally, if, as I fear, by the time you read this, you have learned that California has actually elected Arnold "The Gropenator" Schwarzenegger as our next governor, please rest assured it wasn't with my vote. What the hell has this state come to?

Other than that, how was your week? ▼

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Ezerski sentenced to 25 years in prison

by Ed Walsh

It was a case that shook the Bay Area and South Florida two years ago, made national headlines, and dominated local news. Nineteen-year-old Adam Ezerski was compared to gay serial killer Andrew Cunanan, the man who murdered designer Gianni Versace. Ezerski was initially suspected of killing two gay men in Florida before taking off for San Francisco where he allegedly tried to kill another gay man.

The murder case against Ezerski abruptly ended in a Fort Lauderdale courtroom last week. He took a deal. Ezerski, now 21, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and robbery for killing and robbing Anthony Martilotto in July 2001. He was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

At first, Ezerski was suspected of killing another gay man in South Florida but evidence later completely cleared him of any involvement in that murder. There's a possibility he could be prosecuted for the alleged attempted murder of a gay man in San Francisco.

In an exclusive interview with the *Bay Area Reporter* shortly after



Adam Ezerski

his arrest in Reno in August 2001, Ezerski confessed that he killed Martilotto but he said he acted in self-defense after Martilotto, 40, tried to rape him. His trial for Martilotto's murder was scheduled to start this month.

Last Wednesday, October 1, Ezerski decided to take a plea bargain after a judge threw his two public defenders off his case because the attorneys had represented two jailhouse informants who were witnesses against Ezerski.

Troy Young, the San Francisco man who traveled with Ezerski to Reno, is serving a prison sentence of just under four years for harboring a fugitive. Young told the B.A.R. that he helped Ezerski because he was convinced of his innocence. Young added that he wanted to help the troubled teen avoid any more trouble and he said he tried to convince Ezerski to turn himself in to the police.

The FBI, sensitive to criticism of its handling of the Cunanan case, was quick to work with the gay community to get the word out about Ezerski when the case broke two years ago. Apparently, that word never filtered down to some rank and file police officers.

Ezerski told the B.A.R. that a U.S. Park Police officer detained him after he was found sleeping in Martilotto's car in San Francisco. Ezerski said he showed the officer his driver's license and thought he would be arrested for murder, but the officer let him go. Ezerski added that he later walked by a pair of FBI agents who were staked outside Young's apartment. Ezerski said that he smiled at the agents but they didn't recognize him, perhaps because he had recently dyed his hair blond. ▼

## Davis recalled

◀ page 1

gratulations, Davis appeared before his supporters in Los Angeles and thanked them, and his wife and family, for their support. A visibly upset Sharon Davis wiped tears from her eyes while the crowd booed at the mere mention of Schwarzenegger's name and vowed to recall the new governor-elect.

"No, no, that was the argument before tonight," responded Davis, who said he had pledged the full cooperation of his administration with the transition between leaders. "I am calling on everyone in this state to put the chaos of the recall behind us and do what is right for this great state of California."

As the stunning defeat of the Democratic governor by a moderate Republican who professed to support gay rights reverberates across the country, the implications for the state's LGBT community will not be known until at least November, when the election results will be certified and Schwarzenegger is sworn into office.

During his term in office, Davis has signed into law numerous gay rights bills, nominated openly gay and lesbian judges to the courts, and hired out staff members to serve throughout his administration. It remains to be seen if Schwarzenegger will do the same.

Throughout the campaign, he refused to meet with gay political groups, turned down media requests from gay publications, and refused to answer questions posed to him by the state's openly gay and lesbian elected officials.

While Schwarzenegger was described as pro-gay and has voiced support for same-sex couples in the past, he reportedly would not have signed into law AB205, the sweeping domestic partner bill Davis signed into law just weeks prior to Tuesday's special election. That stance could bolster efforts by conservative Republicans who

have sued in court and are gathering signatures for a ballot measure that would overturn the bill.

In his acceptance speech on Tuesday night, Schwarzenegger said he would not cater to special interests and professed "I want to be the people's governor. I want to represent everybody."

Whether that includes gays and lesbians is an open question. The election of Schwarzenegger is being met with a wait and see approach by gay rights activists and lawmakers.

On Wednesday, openly gay Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), vice chair of the Legislature's LGBT Caucus, said the gay lawmakers' group would be extending Schwarzenegger an invitation to meet with them. Though the reception could be a chilly one.

In response to newspaper reports that Schwarzenegger allegedly groped and fondled up to 15 women he worked with on his film sets, Leno announced Sunday that he would introduce legislation that would increase the penalties for work-based sexual battery from six months to a full year in jail. Schwarzenegger admitted having "behaved badly" in the past but blamed the accounts on Davis's campaign, calling it another sign of puke politics.

Though the issue is sure to dog him as he takes over the governorship, Leno said Wednesday that he intends to pursue passage of the legislation.

"I think we are indebted to the governor-elect for bringing to our attention the seriousness of workplace sexual battery and that is because, at work, the victim suffers twice," said Leno. "First physically and emotionally and secondly at risk of livelihood."

If Schwarzenegger does meet with the LGBT lawmakers — he pledged Tuesday night that he would extend his hand to and keep his office door open to all the legislators in Sacramento — Leno said his first question will be how strongly he will denounce the referendum of AB205.

erendum of AB205.

"He has been anything but clear and forthcoming with regard to his position on queer issues," said Leno. "I think we need to continue to move our agenda forward and if this supposedly gay-friendly governor-elect wishes to oppose our effort, Californians need to know that."

To date, Leno said he has not seen any signs that Schwarzenegger will be a champion for gay rights.

"We will certainly advocate on behalf of our community members, but at this point, he is a complete enigma," said Leno, who will be holding hearings of his select committee on LGBT families over the next several months to help map out what the LGBT Caucus's set of legislation will be next year. "I hope to be proven wrong, but his association through his brief campaign with Pete Wilson and Rob Stutzman did not leave me hopeful."

[Wilson is the former GOP governor; Stutzman was involved in the campaign for Proposition 22, the Knight initiative, in 2000.] Geoff Kors, the director of Equality California, expressed the same sentiments in a statement circulated after the election results were announced.

"We are cautiously optimistic about the newly elected governor's position on issues that affect the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community," stated Kors. "Although a campaign spokesperson stated that Schwarzenegger would not have signed the recently enacted domestic partner bill, we hope that he will join the majority of Californians in supporting this important legislation that protects families."

According to Equality California, an exit poll during Tuesday's special election found that a majority of Californians support the new law. And Schwarzenegger's official campaign Web site indicates that he supports equal rights for LGBT Californians: "I am for equal

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# Social conservatives to 'protect' marriage

## Local counterdemo planned for Sat.

by Bob Roehr

The Family Research Council is leading a group of the usual suspects in a crusade to "save" traditional marriage from the clutches of homosexuals. Their latest PR offensive, "Marriage Protection Week," October 12-18 was unveiled at an October 2 news conference.

FRC President Tony Perkins spoke contemptuously of activist judges, a "black plague" about to impose the fiat of gay marriage upon an American public that opposes the idea.

He unveiled a "Marriage Protection Pledge," a certificate FRC is asking elected officials to sign, endorsing a traditional definition of marriage. It is a kind of "lite" version of what the group really wants — support for the Federal Marriage Amendment, a constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage.

Perkins touted a presidential proclamation on the week. But the words of that proclamation were rather thin gruel for the fear mongers. It restated Bush's belief that "Marriage is a union between a man and a woman," a statement agreed to by all of the leading Democratic candidates for president.

And it pledged to support government and non-government efforts to "promote healthy marriages and a better quality of life for children;" boilerplate rhetoric

that is standard for every public official.

The proclamation did not mention the FMA, or carry veiled references to any of the religious right's other pet projects. And it closed with a commitment to "continue our work to create a compassionate, welcoming society, where all people are treated with dignity and respect."

The White House did the least it could to mollify the social conservatives while at the same time making sure to define the proclamation in its own terms and stay above the fray of a cultural war over gay marriage.

That balancing act wasn't enough for most gay groups.

"It is reprehensible for a president who claims to be compassionate to pander to a coalition of extremist groups by joining their assault on gay families," asserted Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign. However, she was "pleased" that the president did not endorse the FMA.

"We are shocked, appalled, and immensely saddened that President Bush has sanctioned the so-called Marriage Protection Week with an official proclamation," said Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. He described it as "a bald campaign to demonize and defame gay people and our families, shamefully mixing religion and politics."

"President Bush has just endorsed an organized agenda of bigotry, discrimination, exclusion, and intolerance," said Joan Garry, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. She called upon the media to press the Bush administration on "their association with professional homophobes."

The gay oriented Metropolitan Community Churches has de-

clared that same mid-October period "Marriage Equality Week," dedicated to the recognition of same-sex marriage. It will seek to counter the fundamentalists with its own educational activities.

Locally, to counter the Marriage Protection Week events, Marriage Equality California has organized a "Come Out for Equality" day for clergy and communities of faith to discuss support of

marriage for same-sex couples. The event is planned for Saturday, October 11 to coincide with National Coming Out Day.

"There is a growing number of churches, spiritual leaders, and communities of faith who proudly affirm full marriage equality for same-sex couples," said the Reverend Cecil Williams, pastor of San Francisco's Glide Memorial

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## Oakland Black Pride conference Saturday

by Zak Szymanski

California Black Pride is continuing its tradition of holding a black gay pride event in October, with Oakland Black Pride taking place this Saturday, October 11 in the form of a half-day conference entitled, "It's Natural."

The conference will be held from 4-8 p.m. in the SMAAC Youth Center at 1738 Telegraph Avenue in Oakland, and the event features workshops, an awards reception, a reading, and vending opportunities.

It's Natural is free of charge for community members.

Workshops include "Say it loud, I'm black and I'm proud: BGLTBSGL Community," held from 4-5 p.m., during which time the annual Marlon Riggs Achieve-

ment Awards will be distributed. Riggs honorees include HIV/AIDS client manager Jim Taylor; the black lesbian organization Nia Collective; and the first Mr. Black Gay Oakland, Stacey P.

"Family Builder: Adoption" is a brief seminar from 5 to 5:30 p.m. to educate the community on adoption opportunities for prospective black LGBT parents.

"Women's Health," led by Dr. Kimberly Hicks, takes place from 5:30-6:30 p.m.; and "HIV Treatment Update," with Dr. Robert C. Scott, goes from 6-7 p.m.

Following the workshops, Bookhouse Cafe presents "Meet the Author," a reading and book signing featuring Anna Dennis, author of *The Purest of Pain*, and Tim'm West, author of *Red Dirt Revival*.

Oakland Black Pride expects 300-500 people to attend this

year's event, which has been shortened to a half-day affair due to funding cuts. The organization plans to open offices next year, however, and will be hosting its first-ever fundraiser on Friday October 31; the "East Bay Halloween Bash" will take place at the Bates House, 399 Bellevue Avenue, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Halloween Bash tickets are \$35 per person or \$50 per couple and include free wine, beer, and a buffet.

"We're growing, but we need your support to continue to grow," said Bernard Henderson of California Black Pride. "We will continue to serve the community and continue to provide our services free of charge."

More information on this weekend's Oakland Black Pride, as well as other California Black Pride events, can be found at [www.californiablackprides.org](http://www.californiablackprides.org). ▼

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# Parker Guest House AEF luncheon on Sat.

by Zak Szymanski

Once again, the innkeepers of the Castro's beloved Parker Guest House are inviting the public to their grounds for their annual fall benefit luncheon, to be held this Saturday, October 11.

The event raises money for San Francisco's AIDS Emergency Fund and Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, which provide cash assistance to low-income people with disabling illnesses who need help with basic necessities such as rent, utility bills, and medical transportation.

Saturday's event – sponsored by Parker Guest House co-owners Bob O'Halloran and Bill Boeddicker, Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), and 2223 Restaurant and Bar – runs from 1-5 p.m. in the recently expanded gardens of the building, located at 520 Church Street.

Leno and the fabulous Ms. Donna Sachet will host the event; live music will be provided by the Sarah Knutson quartet; Supervisor Bevan Dufty will address the gathering; and a raffle will award guests with thousands of dollars in prizes, including a trip for two to Honolulu.

"This is our sixth annual benefit, and with our previous benefits we have raised over \$50,000 for AEF and BCEF," said a statement from O'Halloran and Boeddicker. The pair expects about 120 people to attend this Saturday's luncheon, raising between \$12,000

and \$15,000 in a single day for the two nonprofits.

Tickets to Saturday's luncheon are \$75 and include all the entertainment and mingling, plus soft drinks, beer and wine, and a sit-down lunch donated by 2223 Market. For more information, or to purchase tickets, call (415) 621-3222 or visit [www.parkerguesthouse.com](http://www.parkerguesthouse.com); 100 percent of the proceeds from Saturday's event go directly to the HIV/AIDS and breast cancer charities. ▼



Mark Leno, Bill Boeddicker, Bob O'Halloran, and Donna Sachet will be at the AEF benefit luncheon this Saturday.

## Gay seniors discuss isolation at Oakland meeting

by Michael Chandler

Gay seniors from minority communities spoke out about isolation and other struggles at a meeting in Oakland last week to kick off a yearlong outreach effort to identify ways the city might be able to help them. The project, organized by Lavender Seniors of the East Bay, is one of a few in the country to reach out to this often forgotten population.

Lavender Seniors, an organization that provides socializing opportunities and support services for more than 300 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people over the age of 55 in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, received a grant of \$32,073 from the city of Oakland to fund the project. The grant will pay for an outreach specialist to organize focus groups of

LGBT seniors from minority communities to find out how their needs – from housing to health care – might be different from those of the general senior population.

Peggy Moore, Lavender Senior's outreach specialist for the project, said that while all seniors may struggle with the same types of issues in their daily lives, gay seniors grapple with "a different level of isolation."

According to a study conducted in New York City at the Brookdale Center on Aging at Hunter College, 66 percent of LGBT seniors live alone, compared to 33 percent of heterosexual seniors, and they are more likely to live in poverty and struggle with depression and poor nutrition. Gay seniors, particularly seniors of color, are also less likely to have birth families and faith communities to rely on because of the stigma of

being gay.

Fred Banuelos, who spoke on a panel at the meeting, has survived two long-term partners and has lived alone since 1992. Since he came out, he said he also lost contact with his family, his ex-wife, and his children. "Talk about being alone," he said.

The isolation is widespread and has many roots.

"I lost about three-quarters of my friends to HIV," said Blackberry, 58, a health educator and panelist. "I feel like I lost a lot of my history because my friends are gone."

One panelist talked about trying to keep better tabs on her friends as they get older and become less mobile. Another talked about the danger of getting out of touch.

"In the last couple of years, two of our friends were found dead in their homes," said Shannon

Smith, 60. "One had been dead for two weeks. One had been dead for three weeks."

After 40 years of living with her partner, Smith said now she has to worry that they might not be able to find a supportive living facility where they can live together as an out gay couple. Few retirement homes exist specifically for gay couples. Many gays fear prejudice from older heterosexuals who grew up in a time that was much more intolerant of homosexuality.

The panelists' stories struck a chord with members of the audience, consisting of approximately 25 people, many of whom were under 55. Joe Hawkins, 40, owner of a gay Web site, said he had never really considered the challenges of getting older.

"I'm sitting here almost in tears. I just wanna tell everyone, 'Hey, we're getting older. What are we gonna do?'" ▼

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# Heartfelt tribute one year after Gwen Araujo's murder

by Cynthia Laird

In early October 2002 Sylvia Guerrero had no idea that her daughter, Gwen Araujo, had been brutally murdered, allegedly at the hands of a group of young men at a house party who became enraged when they discovered Araujo was a biological male. Araujo's body was found weeks later, after rumors began swirling around the East Bay city of Newark.

Last Saturday, October 4, friends and family of the transgender teenager gathered at Newark Memorial High School to pay tribute to a young woman who struggled with her identity.

Three men are charged with murder and a hate crime enhancement in the beating death of Araujo, 17. Jose Merel, Michael Magidson, and Jason Cazares, all 23, have pleaded not guilty to the charges. Authorities said they killed Araujo after learning she was biologically male. A fourth suspect, Jaron Nabors, 20, pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in February during the preliminary hearing in Alameda County Superior Court in Fremont. Nabors has promised to testify at the trial and is expected to receive an 11-year prison sentence. The trial for the other three defendants is scheduled to start in March.

During Saturday's memorial

service, which was attended by an estimated 150-175 people, Guerrero received a standing ovation from the crowd and spoke passionately about her daughter and her struggles.

"Have people forgotten how to love?" she asked. "I love my children. I never taught my children how to hate. We're all different but we are all born in the image of God. I had a different child. Gwen struggled. Gwen was transgender. She never identified as a man."

Guerrero said that she knew nothing about the word transgender and didn't use the word before Araujo's murder. Nonetheless, she said she did as much as she could to accept her daughter.

"I tried everything I could to help Gwen feel loved and accepted," Guerrero said.

But outside forces were constantly in play.

"The truth is, Gwen was hated," Guerrero said, adding that her other children heard taunts at school, such as, "That was your faggot brother who was murdered."

"There is still ignorance and hatred in this town," Guerrero said. "Gwen's feelings were hurt all the time."

Newark City Council member Al Nagy attended the memorial and spoke on behalf of the city.

"Gwen's death one year ago brought our community together," Nagy said. "A loss of a member



Sylvia Guerrero, right, talks with a friend of Gwen Araujo's during Saturday's memorial service.

of our community family is a tragic circumstance. Gwen's loss prompted us to look inward, to open our minds and hearts," he said.

He reviewed some steps that have taken place since last October, including a community forum last December. Nagy said that Newark, a city in southern Alameda County, is a diverse community, and that all residents deserve quality of life, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex people.

"Tonight, each of us make a personal commitment to accept

differences," he said.

Transgender activists also spoke during the service. Gwen-dolyn Ann Smith, the creator of the annual Day of Remembrance ceremony that takes place in San Francisco and the Remembering Our Dead Web site that chronicles transgender hate crime victims, said that Araujo's murder has renewed her own passion to work to stop the violence directed at transgender people.

"Since October 2002, there have been 29 other deaths at the hands of antitransgender violence, 14 of those in the United States,"

said Smith, who is also a columnist for the *Bay Area Reporter*. "That's more than one a month. These are more than numbers, these are human beings — sons, daughters, friends, and lovers. Gwen's murder is a tragedy. A life cut short by hatred and prejudice. Her death is like a wake-up call."

Danielle Castro, a young Latina transgender woman, spoke of difficulties she experienced growing up and said she wants to be an example for her community.

Kate Lyness spoke of the group Not In Newark that was started after Araujo's murder. Comprised of young people and adults, Not In Newark seeks to work with city and school officials to foster tolerance.

The reaction to Araujo's murder at school was very mixed, Lyness said, adding that she graduated last year from Newark Memorial High. Students continue using slurs, she said.

"At the beginning of last year, I was shocked that a youth had been [allegedly] murdered by alumni who went to the same high school," Lyness said, referring to the start of school last year at Newark Memorial High.

She said that youth need to be more involved in educating each other. "I don't want to see another fellow student murdered for who she was," Lyness said.

Julie Dorf of the Horizons

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SF

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## Mayoral race

◀ page 1

like the last mayoral election, this time around it is apparent that all of the candidates have recognized the need to have specific solutions to address the city's crisis.

The *Bay Area Reporter* took an overall look at the homeless proposals put forth by all the mayoral candidates, as outlined by their position papers, interviews, and debates.

Many voters would agree that homelessness is a campaign issue tends to focus on the poorest of the poor, or those who are a visible street presence. But many candidates reject the notion that homelessness can be addressed without also expanding jobs, affordable housing, treatment options, and other services for people from a variety of economic backgrounds.

### Angela Alioto

**Plan:** San Francisco Cares

**Cost:** Unspecified

**Funding:** Redirected city funds and state and federal aid

**Platform:** A community approach that calls for public and private partnerships which center around the creation of 22 regional "triage" centers for drug treatment, job training, housing, and mental clinic placement.

**Not addressed:** Welfare reform

Former Supervisor Angela Alioto, like the other self-described progressives in the race for mayor, said she strongly opposes a punitive approach to homelessness, however, her position paper also clearly states "unflinching support for law enforcement" when it comes to cracking down on drug dealers and other offenders.

Alioto's San Francisco Cares calls for the development of two triage centers per supervisorial

district that will be open 24 hours a day to perform intake, track clients, and place them immediately into appropriate services. To make the system work, the plan also calls for outreach to be performed by health care workers, public safety officers, service providers, religious leaders, neighborhood representatives, and volunteers.

"My goal is ambitious," Alioto stated in her proposal. "I will find housing for everyone, and my San Francisco Care Corps Centers will identify the appropriate places to put them. This is the only way we will get homeless off our streets."

Much of the plan's funding, said Alioto, can come from state and federal programs for which the city is currently not eligible.

"With a solid plan like San Francisco Cares in place, we will be eligible for state and federal resources for which we currently do not qualify," the plan states, citing \$1.06 billion recently made available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for supportive housing, shelter plus care, and Section 8 moderate rehabilitation of single-room occupancy hotels. Other programs to be tapped include funding offered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Institutes of Health, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and California's affordable housing funding.

San Francisco's General Fund, she said, currently mis-spends \$110 million a year on homeless services, and that money will be redirected to her plan's priorities. She has told reporters that her plan won't cost the city any more than it already spends on homelessness.

Unlike other attempted homeless reform measures, Alioto deliberately excludes welfare reform from her proposal.

"Welfare reform is a separate

issue, is relatively less important because it affects only one in seven homeless people, and will be addressed in a separate policy paper," she said.

For more information, visit [www.alioto4mayor.com](http://www.alioto4mayor.com).

### Tom Ammiano

**Plan:** Ending the Gridlock: A Strategy for Addressing Homelessness

**Cost:** About \$30 million specified for expanded supportive housing and treatment beds

**Funding:** San Francisco's General Fund, possibly through the statewide mental health initiative, and a portion of San Francisco's existing affordable housing projects

**Platform:** Guided by the belief that housing is the solution to homelessness and that community-based treatment and rehabilitation is the solution to mental illness and addiction. Proposes federal and state involvement, a focus on the mentally ill homeless, and an end to program politicization.

**Not addressed:** Welfare reform

Supervisor Tom Ammiano's seven-page document outlining his platform on homelessness includes financial charts, a history of homeless policy negotiations and reform, and an analysis of why previous efforts have failed to solve the main issue that troubles San Franciscans: the visible street population prone to self-harm and "behaviors that are most disturbing to residents."

Ammiano deliberately rejects welfare reform as the focus of the homeless problem, stating that the political battles over Newsom's Care Not Cash neglect to recognize that most welfare recipients are "able-bodied adults capable of some form of work," a population that will be served by Daly's Real Housing, Real Care. The debate needs to shift, said Ammiano, to the mentally ill homeless, who are presently shuttled between revolving door programs at great cost to the city.

Specific solutions under the Ammiano plan include the expansion of mental health treatment programs, with placement for those with clinical diagnoses into clinical settings. For those who do not require clinical settings, Ammiano proposes expanding the Direct Access to Housing program (a program of the health department), outpatient treatment programs, and SSI advocacy for qualified federal aid recipients.

"The truly criminal fact of state funding priorities has led to the California Department of Corrections becoming the largest mental health provider in the state," said Ammiano, who added that the "glimmer of hope" comes in the form of the mental health initiative, which, if passed, would provide \$600 million in additional statewide funding for the mentally ill.

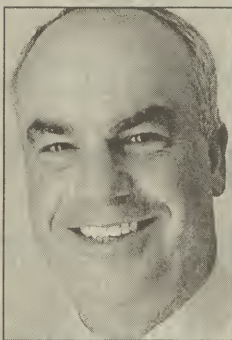
Such revenue would help to

fund his proposed expansions, which are estimated to cost about \$14 million in operations for 1,350 units of supportive housing – such units could be acquired through existing programs as well as new construction – and about \$15 million in costs for 200 units of acute diversion and treatment beds. These expansions would also be funded by client rent, and medical funds through the city's Department of Public Health. About \$16 million for both expansions would depend on the city's General Fund, which could be offset, said Ammiano, by the passage of the mental health initiative.

Finally, Ammiano further proposes accountability and continuous evaluation of his program's effectiveness.

"I will require that all programs and proposals be measured against the two yardsticks," said Ammiano. "Is there more housing for the homeless? Are city neighborhoods less troubled by the ills associated with homelessness?"

For more information visit [www.ammianoformayor.com](http://www.ammianoformayor.com).



Candidate Michael Denny

### Michael Denny

**Plan:** To create incentives for citizens to create homeless solutions

**Cost:** Unspecified monetary incentives and city tax breaks for charitable contributions

**Platform:** Eliminate government spending on homelessness and encourage instead private and community-based funding of proven programs that provide services to the mentally ill, chemically addicted, and unemployed.

Michael Denny is a Libertarian, and as such, believes in the free will of the people. This includes, he said, the responsibility of the people to take care of its citizens, social ills and all.

"It's not City Hall's job to solve the homeless problem, which is why it can't solve the problem," said Denny, who advocates turning over responsibility to citizens and volunteers.

Denny points to privately funded programs like Raphael House on Sutter Street, which serves homeless families and works with business partnerships to employ its clients. The high quality of care and decency with which these clients are treated, said Denny, "cannot even be compared to the public health approach."

Creating and finding jobs is the easiest solution to homelessness, said Denny, who acknowledges that the chemically addicted will require a complex approach. He agrees with many progressives that mean-spirited campaigns against giving out change are counterproductive, but he does advocate that people who give spare change to a homeless person treat that person like a friend "and ask how they plan to pay you back."

"It's not a good idea to be giving out something for nothing,"

said Denny. "And this is not for lack of compassion, but rather, because City Hall is not capable of adding the human element that actually helps these people."

Without asking the homeless to be accountable to others for the money they receive, said Denny, it is impossible to ask them to be accountable for themselves.

"We need to get more personal beyond putting a roof over their heads and giving them food; we do that for animals at the zoo. We need to engage these people," said Denny, who believes that those on the city payroll have no incentive to care about the homeless since "their jobs depend on this problem never going away."

The mentally ill are by far the hardest population to address, said Denny, and rather than following the examples of New York and Chicago, which forced people into shelters, he wants to create a 100 percent deduction on city taxes for charitable donations to mental health services. He also believes in mobilizing the retired medical professionals in the city to volunteer their services.

"You cannot spend this problem away unless you want to use force to lock people up in jails or 'low grade prison' shelters," said Denny. "Other cities made it illegal to be homeless on the street, but I believe we can do better than that."

For more information visit [www.michaeldenny.net](http://www.michaeldenny.net).

### Matt Gonzalez

**Plan:** To be published in the coming days

Board of Supervisors President Matt Gonzalez is aware of his reputation as an idealist, but the ultra-progressive Green Party candidate for mayor has emphasized that his record proves he is also a realist.

When it comes to homelessness, Gonzalez has a multi-tiered approach that includes economic reform and increased services, although the specifics have not yet been published in the form of a position paper.

Ideas currently proposed by Gonzalez include reducing the size of government and using the extra dollars for increased services; creating and maintaining jobs through the elimination of the payroll tax; and homeless prevention in the form of an increased minimum wage.

At a recent mayoral debate on homelessness, Gonzalez said his first priority would be to get control of the shelters and make them accountable to minimum standards which would help to ensure their residents' safety. The next step, he said, would be for the city to buyland for nonprofit housing that would remain below market rate.

More information – including Gonzalez's comprehensive plan, expected to be released within the next several days – can be found at [www.mattgonzalez.com](http://www.mattgonzalez.com).

### Susan Leal

**Plan:** A four-point Real Care, Leadership Accountability, Regional Coordination, and Housing plan

**Cost:** Unspecified

**Funding:** A variety of existing funds targeted toward homeless programs; new bonds; federal and state funds; and a trade-off that links for-profit developments to affordable housing

**Platform:** 1) provide hands-on leadership accountability; put somebody in charge of the homeless situation 2) provide real care 3) organize regional cooperation and coordination with surrounding Bay Area counties to qualify for more federal and state funding 4)

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

build and create affordable housing

**Not addressed:** Welfare reform

Susan Leal's mayoral platform in general emphasizes her strengths: growing the economy, managing resources, and holding individuals, organizations, and governmental bodies responsible for their actions.

Within this broader view of her vision for the city comes Leal's four-point homeless plan.

In recognizing that cutting welfare only addresses a small portion of the city's homeless, Leal's plan does not touch approaches like Care Not Cash, other than to emphasize that without the care, cutting cash grants will not bring about progress. In fact, said Leal, if Newsom's plan were to go into effect today, most San Franciscans would be surprised to see how many of the visibly homeless remained on the streets.

True to Leal's philosophy of an ethical, open government, leadership accountability is high on her list of priorities, and in line with her vision of an inclusive San Francisco, affordable housing – including supportive housing – figures prominently into her plan. Shelters, said Leal, in agreement with many progressives, are not only unsafe environments for residents, but are not stable enough to act as anything other than temporary roofs, and should not be counted as sources of real housing. New units of affordable housing could be funded through housing bonds, and business incentives could be linked to housing by allowing condo conversions to go up if more affordable units were built. Prevention is key to limiting the numbers of new homeless individuals and families, she said.

Key to the Leal plan is regional cooperation, which is guided by the belief that San Francisco shoulders a higher burden of the homeless problem, and that partnering with surrounding counties will allow San Francisco to represent 6 million people when applying for federal and state aid.

"San Francisco cannot bear the burden of homelessness alone," said Leal. "Resources are unevenly spread around the region: San Francisco has more services, and other communities have more affordable housing. Regional coordination can help distribute services more widely, so that people can access services in their home communities rather than moving from place to place seeking services and housing."

Finally, in recognizing the complexity and "gray areas" of the problem, and the fluctuating costs associated with addressing all the issues, Leal does not specify how much her plan would cost, other than reiterating that San Francisco can do more with the resources it has.

"San Francisco spends over \$200 million on homelessness every year, with no visible improvement in the crisis and no one in charge of that money," said Leal. "We can do better."

Visit [www.susanleal.com](http://www.susanleal.com) for more information.

**Gavin Newsom**

**Plan:** 1) Care Not Cash (implemented in milder form with Supervisor Chris Daly's "Real Housing, Real Care"); 2) "Aggressive panhandling" bill (slated for November ballot)

**Cost:** 1) Money saved from welfare payments was supposed to go toward housing and services, but the Board of Supervisors determined that the money was not adequate to provide the services promised 2) \$900,000 associated

with enforcement

**Platform:** 1) Care Not Cash would have cut general assistance grants to \$59 to about 2,500 homeless individuals in exchange for shelter and/or housing and services 2) Aggressive panhandling initiative calls for law enforcement intervention, and diversion, jail, or community service for repeat offenders

**Not addressed:** The homeless population not affected by welfare reform and not engaged in panhandling

For anyone not living under a rock for the past year, Supervisor Gavin Newsom's Care Not Cash is by now familiar. The controversial ballot initiative, passed by 59 percent of the voters in November 2002, sought to reduce cash grants to about 2,500 homeless individuals and replace that money with services, including housing.

But the obstacles to implementing the measure were there from day one. When a superior court judge ruled the measure unconstitutional this spring, it was up to the Board of Supervisors to pass it as written. The board, however, found that the "care" associated with the "not cash" just wasn't there, neither in long-term housing nor funds required for the promised services.

Nonetheless, Newsom said his measure was a success; Supervisor Chris Daly's compromise bill, passed into law this summer, allows cash grants to be cut once services are provided.

And Newsom has another plan in the works to address the aspect of homelessness that is perhaps just as troubling to San Franciscans fed up with a visible street presence. His aggressive panhandling bill (Proposition M) has qualified for the November ballot and calls for defining the term to ban soliciting at or near ATM machines and check cashing outlets, on streets, parking lots and highway ramps, and on public transportation. After one warning, offenders could be charged with a misdemeanor or fine or attend a diversion program that includes treatment. Repeat offenders could be sentenced to jail or community service.

Love or hate him and his proposed policies, his actions have made homelessness the center of this mayoral race. Other plans for the future include adopting a centralized intake procedure to ensure accountability; creating an outreach team to work with the Department of Human Services and DPH; and revamping the mobile assistance program to expand services and increase capacity between the hours of midnight and 8 a.m.

For more information visit [www.gavinnewsom.com](http://www.gavinnewsom.com).

**Jim Reid**

**Plan:** Habitat for the Homeless, a nonprofit organization

**Cost:** Building costs are estimated at about \$9,000 per unit

**Platform:** Build and provide thousands of "ShelterOne" units in exchange for community service

**Not addressed:** Aspects of homelessness that are not caused by a lack of shelter

"Is this tiny house a huge piece of the solution to homelessness?" Jim Reid asked rhetorically on his campaign Web site. Reid believes – passionately – this his ability to construct 10 foot by 10 foot fully-equipped homes is the most tangible homeless solution to be offered.

While acknowledging that his ShelterOne units do not address the multiple classes or causes of homelessness, Reid nonetheless believes that by providing home-

less people with a home in exchange for neighborhood maintenance and clean-up, the city will make a lot of progress toward getting people off the streets.

Envisioning a homeless and formerly homeless work force to help build and implement the project, Reid said that his ShelterOne vision for San Francisco could serve as a model for the rest of the country.

"This approach could house half of the homeless in America without spending taxpayer money, which there is not much of these days," said Reid, who likens his proposal to the temporary housing built after the 1906 earthquake.

There are, of course, problems with this idea. Not every neighborhood is going to welcome the addition of a small structure resembling a tool shed on its block. And current zoning laws make the house illegal – Reid is already embroiled in a battle with the city's Department of Building Inspection for allowing people to live in his model shelter on the yard of his property.

Still, Reid believes that voters will enthusiastically support changes to allow for new and affordable housing.

"We spend almost \$200 million in San Francisco each year treating the symptoms of homelessness without solving the core problem, housing."

For more information visit [www.sfmayor.com](http://www.sfmayor.com).

**Tony Ribera**

**Plan:** Five-point homeless plan

**Cost:** Unspecified

**Platform:** Revamping the delivery and management system

**Not addressed:** Specifics of proposed homeless goals

"We spend over \$200 million a year to deal with street people and what do we have to show for it? San Franciscans have a right to know what our city's goals are and how we plan to achieve them," said mayoral candidate Tony Ribera.

Ribera's five-point plan, as outlined by his campaign literature, includes the following:

1) Abolishing the Mayor's Office of Homelessness and replacing it with an inter-departmental Homeless Policy Committee.

2) Establishing specific goals for impacting homelessness and implementing new policies within 90 days.

3) Developing comprehensive programs for tracking the homeless and categorizing their needs.

4) Creating neighborhood outreach teams, consisting of health professionals and social service case managers.

5) Instructing the police department to vigorously enforce existing quality of life laws.

For more information, visit [www.tonyribera4mayor.com](http://www.tonyribera4mayor.com).

**Roger Schulke**

**Plan:** Tackling homelessness as an issue central to his "three pillars" vision of San Francisco

**Cost:** Unspecified

**Platform:** Homeless removal

**Not addressed:** The homeless who will remain

"San Francisco shines most when it equally balances the needs of local businesses, tourists, and the people who live and work here. These three pillars of San Francisco have to be considered in all major decisions," said Roger Schulke, whose own exasperation with the city's homeless problem is summarized by an article posted on his Web site detailing San

Francisco's declining tourism.

"Without tourists, San Francisco businesses will not prosper; and, without the businesses the residents of San Francisco will not prosper."

Schulke's belief is that the city's biggest problem is homelessness, and as mayor, he would "establish a two-year goal of first reducing the number of indigents, and then removing those remaining on city streets."

One cause of the sheer numbers of homelessness, said Schulke, is the "Greyhound Therapy" policies of other cities that buy one-way bus tickets for their homeless residents, shipping them to San Francisco.

"This practice has increased the homeless in San Francisco to over six times the number that a city of this size would normally have. San Francisco should not, and cannot, be responsible for taking care of the nation's homeless," said Schulke, who vows to crack down on the practice.

"The first step in fixing and controlling the indigent problem is to stop their ever-increasing flood into the city," he said. "As mayor I will announce to the country that San Francisco will no longer take another city's problems. That we will employ whatever means necessary to discourage other cities from using San Francisco as a dumping ground."

"We may be compassionate, but we cannot be foolish about it."

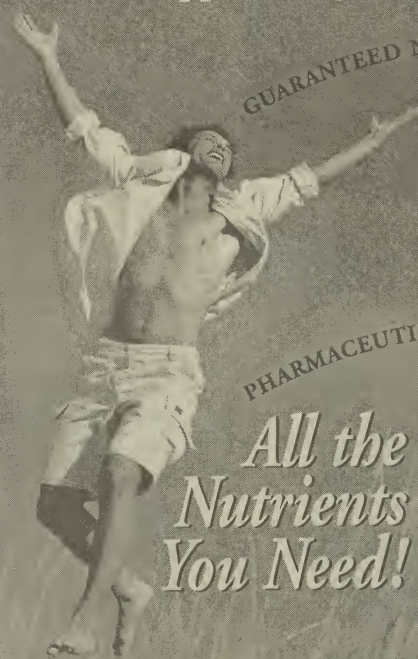
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Coming next week: *The Bay Area Reporter* looks at the candidates' positions on issues surrounding the San Francisco Police Department.

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# Tennis balls, canines in District 8

## Changes discussed for Collingwood Park

by Jim Provenzano

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's district supervisor Dan McKenna unveiled a plan to dig up the forlorn Collingwood Park tennis court and replace it with an expanded off-leash dog run.

Public comments were heard at the October 1 meeting, the last day the athletic center was open before a multimillion dollar renovation closes it for over a year.

Despite the occasion, and a request for orderly comments, differences of opinion were vocally, and randomly, expressed at the meeting, held in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center.

The expansion of the dog run, at the expense of an athletic facility, as one community member feared, "is pitting two communities against each other."

Dog owners said they deserve more space, since people don't use the park. Others said that the lack of use has been because of unleashed pets.

"I used to play tennis there, until the dogs took it over," said Miriam Moss, one of several residents who offered comments.

"I feel like we've been duped by Rec and Park," said Laura Trainer, a 20-year tennis player. "You're rewarding dog owners

for breaking through the fence."

### Tennis, anyone?

A slide of Rec and Parks' plan concisely yellow-lining the tennis court as its target behind him, McKenna focused on likelihood of the dog run expanding, and what sort of ground to use once the court was gone.

When asked about the need for keeping the softball diamond as is, McKenna mentioned that 190 days of permits are paid through the year, making the softball diamond an already well-used space.

Dog run expansionists denied a high number of human/sports use, citing that as reason enough to ask for larger portions of the park.

Some questioned why only the tennis court was chosen as an option, and requested a rethinking of the plan, to make it more multi-functional, instead of, as Richard Cree, a 30-year resident said, "being forced out of a field by dog owners."

### A boy and his dog

While safety was an issue, Captain Bill Herndon of the San Francisco Police Department, with Animal Control staff accompaniment, said that only one dog bite incident had been reported in the past several years. He also mentioned the new increased fine for not scooping up poop, currently \$319.

Parents and a school principal agreed that an enclosed area for free-range canines would make small kids safer.

McKenna mentioned the square footage of 10,000 square feet as the "minimum" for a good dog run. But how the "minimum" — nearly the exact size of the tennis court — came about was unclear.

Tennis players defended keeping the court, which is not fenced in, but admitted that the court is in such poor shape, and not lit at night, that few use it.

Those who do play tennis mentioned frequent incidents of off-leash dogs snapping up balls in the middle of their matches.

"Well, that's what dogs do," one tennis player said of his experiences trying to play there, and a dog owner's perceived indifference.

Longtime HIV survivor Rich Carlton said he would like an expanded dog area, as walking his pet is part of his health regimen.

Said another, "It's not that we have to take them out. They get us outside."

### Droppings by

Responsible pet ownership has long been an issue in local politics, dating back to Supervisor Harvey Milk's famous poop-scooper campaign.

But while attending school named after Milk, students may lose outdoor playing space.

Harvey Milk Academy Principal Kathy Hunter was in favor of designated areas where, "the rules are enforced. Kids sliding into poop is not a good thing."

One parent said that kids who use the court have even made up a new game, called "Tomato Ball," using the tennis court (but not real tomatoes).

Open Space Advisory Committee member Bill Wilson asked, plainly, "Where will the kids play?" McKenna mentioned that 5,000 kids a week play on other park land.

### Locals only

Pet owners said that they cleaned up after their dogs, and even maintained the area themselves. They cited outsiders as the culprits behind the stray donors who spoil the grassy area.

Tennis Advisory Committee member Kerry Mitchell critiqued the process of presenting the renovations as "a done deal."

Supervisor Bevan Dufty, who also presided at the meeting, said, "This is not a done deal," and that he and Rec and Park would continue to take community input over the plans through October.

Dave Frietas was "against eliminating tennis facilities," asking for the court to be renovated.

Some dog owners told jocks to, "Go to a pay court, or a private club."

"If you keep our dog run this small, why not let them play tennis on half a court?" quipped another.

Kevin Ware helps organize the United States Gay Open, held annually in San Francisco, which brings over 600 GLBT tennis players to the Bay Area.

He declined to speak at the meeting, "after hearing how rudely some in the audience were treating speakers and dismissing those who don't live in the neighborhood." And instead

wrote a letter to Dufty.

"If the courts were in good shape, they would be busy at all hours with suitable sunlight," he wrote.

### Paws for a break

So, who deserves more space in this one-block battle?

The site [www.filterfine.com](http://www.filterfine.com) lists 69 San Francisco public tennis courts. Eight are in District 8.

The number of on-leash, off-leash, and "threatened" dog runs, with paw color-coded listings at [www.sfdog.org](http://www.sfdog.org), adds up to 40. This includes huge tracts of public park, but mostly on-leash areas.

Citywide, off-leash areas are in eight parks, but those in or near District 8 (Corona Heights, Buena Vista Park, and Upper Noe) all include steep uphill walks from the Castro, except for Duboce Park.

The SF Dog Committee states that its dog run expansion "has come to resemble trench warfare, with antidog zealots fighting every step of the way."

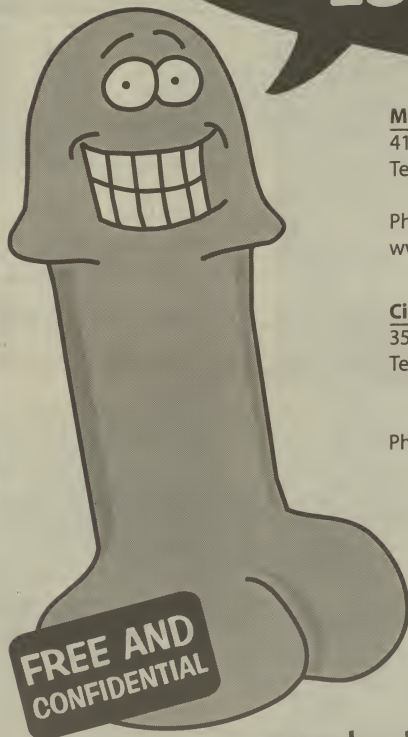
Three years ago, then-Supervisor Amos Brown was said to have commissioned a "dog density" survey from a Dr. John Mills, who used anecdotal facts from a 1990 census.

One person commented that there had never been a "tennis player per capita" study done.

Now that the gymnasium and facilities of Eureka Valley Recreation Center (renamed after the late Mark Bingham) are commencing renovation, McKenna said that most of the park area, be it eventually dogged or courtly, would remain open through the construction phase.

The next meeting will be held October 14 on neutral territory: the Fair Building in Golden Gate Park, 7th Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. For more info, visit [www.sfgov.org/site/recpark\\_ind](http://www.sfgov.org/site/recpark_ind) ex, or call (415) 831-2745. ▼

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## Watch the Blue Angels at SLDN benefit Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

As San Francisco celebrates Fleet Week this week, the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network will host its sixth annual "Red, White, and Blue Angels" fundraiser on Sunday, October 12 on Treasure Island.

The keynote speaker will be retired Master Chief Petty Officer Vince Patton, a member of SLDN's advisory board who was the first African American to hold the rank of master chief petty officer in the Coast Guard. Patton, who is straight, recently addressed an SLDN gala in Washington, D.C. He was an original member of the military committee that reviewed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and he objected to the antigay policy.

The event will also feature members of the Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion, with music by the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band. The benefit, which runs from noon-3 p.m. at Casa de la Vista, the former Naval Officers Club, on Treasure Island, also coincides with the Blue Angels air show. It includes food and beverages.

Local SLDN board members are expected to be on hand, including Jody Hoenninger, a retired lieutenant in the Air Force.

Proceeds will benefit SLDN, an organization that provides help to service members facing discharge under DADT. The organization was founded 10 years ago in 1993, the year that DADT went into effect.

Individual tickets to the benefit are \$75. For more information, visit [www.sldn.org](http://www.sldn.org) and click on events. ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# SLDN marks 10 years of fighting for LGBT people in the military

by Bob Roehr

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network marked a decade of helping LGBT people serving in the military and working to overturn the federal government's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy at a gala dinner in Washington, D.C. October 4.

"There is a real opportunity for things to change for gays in the military. I have not said that any time before," SLDN Executive Director C. Dixon Osburn told those gathered for the event.

A primary reason for his optimism is the Supreme Court decision in June that struck down state sodomy laws, and a legal brief that SLDN filed two days prior to the dinner that takes on sodomy laws in the military under Article 125 of the U.S. Code of Military Justice [see accompanying story].

"The military, unlike many of the states, actually enforces its [sodomy rules] pretty regularly," said Osburn. "You can face up to five years confinement for every act. So if one night you bring somebody home and you do it twice, that's 10 years. You better have been good."

SLDN has assisted about 5,000 men and women in uniform since its founding in 1993. One of the most dramatic examples followed the murder of Private First Class Barry Winchell while he slept in

his barracks at Fort Campbell, Kentucky in 1999. It vividly dramatized the failure of the antigay military policy known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

So it was fitting that many of the speakers that evening had ties to Winchell. His mother, Patricia Kutteles, presented the Barry Winchell Courage Award to Michelle Benecke, cofounder of SLDN, who has since retired from that position.

"She has been a passionate advocate responsible for making the military pay attention and making it change. Many of us would not be here this evening without the vision and commitment of Michelle Benecke," Kutteles said.

Benecke called SLDN "the voice of service members who cannot speak from themselves." She firmly believes "that within the lifetime of the younger service members who are in the military today, that we will see this policy fall."

Calpernia Addams was dating Winchell at the time of his death. The transgender woman described how the Navy "taught me how to heal and how to fight" during her own service as a medic during the Gulf War more than a decade ago. "What Barry's murder showed is that even heterosexual service members are vulnerable to hate crimes."

Master Chief Petty Officer (Ret.) Vincent W. Patton III, at one point the highest ranking en-



Patricia Kutteles presents an award to SLDN cofounder Michelle Benecke.

listed man in the Coast Guard, explained why he, a self-described "straight man," serves on SLDN's advisory board. As a small child in Detroit, he watched as his father had defended a gay male

couple living in the neighborhood when they were the victims of an antigay attack. That experience helped to shape his view of equality and justice for all people.

"Our world is a neighborhood. We are tied together in a single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. And whatever affects one, directly affects all, intimately," he said, quoting the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. "The time is always right to do what is right."

He recalled a visit to one of his posts by openly gay Congressman Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts).

"He received a 19-gun salute, flag flying, but he couldn't serve in the military," Patton said. "It's ridiculous, it has to be stopped."

Reichen Lehmkuhl, a graduate of the Air Force Academy and poster boy from the *Amazing Race 4* television show, worked the pre-dinner reception crowd like a Californian running for governor. Later he was at the podium to receive an award.

"I called SLDN when I was a lieutenant at Los Angeles Air Force Base and this person decided she was going to turn me in," he said. "It was like being put under a big warm wing." He wants to make sure that same support is there for others who need it.

"I didn't come out at the academy for one reason - Don't Ask, Don't Tell. I was so scared at the academy that I couldn't even breathe. I went from day to day, class to class, meal to meal, wondering when it was going to happen. When I was going to be paraded in front of a group of cadets who were going to judge me for breaking a regulation, or court-martialed."

Lehmkuhl lashed out at "those who call themselves the Christian right ... who have raised countless millions of dollars to halt and reverse the gay rights' movement in America. 'People are hiding behind religion to promote bigotry against gay people more than ever today. ... There is a difference between tolerating religious beliefs and tolerating disruptive religious culture.'"

Osburn closed his presentation by quoting from Abraham Lincoln. "If there is anything which we should never entrust to any hands but our own, that thing is the preservation of our own liberty and our own institutions. The power to change is in our hands and in our thoughts." ▼

## Military sodomy code being challenged

by Bob Roehr

The last remaining sodomy statute in the United States is being challenged in court. Article 125 of the U.S. Code of Military Justice prohibits the practice of sodomy by both heterosexuals and homosexuals, and it is regularly enforced by the military.

The case that may strike it down is the *United States v. Eric P. Marcum*, a sergeant in the Air Force. In May 2000 he was found guilty of performing consensual oral sex on a fellow airman in the privacy of Marcum's home.

It has been appealed through the military courts and is now before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. That is the highest court in the system, subject only to review by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The major legal development since the case began is that in June, in the landmark decision of *Lawrence v. Texas*, the Supreme Court threw out all of the remaining state sodomy laws as unconstitutional. However, because of the court's traditional deference to the military on most matters, there is some question as to whether the *Lawrence* decision applies to the military.

Government lawyers are arguing that the *Lawrence* decision should not apply because it did not recognize a "fundamental right to engage in sodomy" and

the court should defer to the judgment of the military on how it runs itself.

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network took the lead in filing an amicus brief with the appeals court on October 2. Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union joined them in arguing that "Lawrence wiped away the sole justification that kept this Court from striking down Article 125 a decade ago."

The brief said that by overruling the *Bowers* decision that accepted the criminalization of sodomy, the court "made clear that the long-established right to personal autonomy precludes the criminalization of private, intimate conduct." That also applies to the military, the brief argued.

Citing Pentagon reports on the widespread practice of sodomy by people of all sexual orientations, SLDN maintained, "Article 125 undermines morale and discipline by criminalizing sexual acts that are widely practiced, thereby forcing military personnel to dissemble about their sexual conduct."

A second amicus brief argues that there is no evidence to suggest that doing away with Article 125 would harm unit cohesion or the good functioning of the military. Among those submitting that brief are Charles Moskos, known as "the father of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,'" and Admiral Bobby Inman (Ret.), who headed up naval intel-

ligence, the super-secret National Security Agency, and later was deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

SLDN Executive Director C. Dixon Osburn said they have been given 15 minutes during the period for oral arguments, which are scheduled for October 7. The appeals court generally deals with administrative issues and seldom with constitutional ones. He believes that one of the five appeals judges is "a lost cause" on this issue, but the other four are open to legal arguments.

The decision may come as early as the end of this year. A favorable ruling would knock out one of the main props that support the antigay DADT military policy. ▼



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# Gay producer crazy for radio

by Eric Ganther

**R**adio informs, soothes, and entertains. I can listen for free and if I stay on the left end of the FM dial, I don't have to listen to annoying beer and car commercials. KQED (88.5), KPOO (89.5), KUSF (90.3), KPFA (90.7), and KALW (91.7), are all non-commercial bigot-free community radio stations that will keep you in tune with the culture, politics, and diversity of the Bay Area. Indeed, we are fortunate to have neighbors who produce radio programs heard around the world. They do it more for love than money, but they get a chance to make a difference. One such dedicated citizen is gay man and radio producer, Robin White.

How long have you been making a living in radio?

I've been a radio producer for 14 years with a side line as a master gardener that I do a couple of days a month. Being a radio producer is somewhat precarious so diversification is really important for me to feel secure and to have options.

Are you independent or do you work with one station?

I work primarily for National Public Radio's *Living On Earth* and also a little two-minute show called *The Weather Notebook*. And I'm also trying to do some work for *All Things Considered*. The story I'm working on now is about bees. There are about 4,000 species of native bees in North America and they're not really recognized for the work they do for agriculture. In fact, they're largely responsible for the shape of the natural world because of the specialized evolutionary relationship between insects and flowers. [My angle is that] native bees contribute to agriculture and depend on wild lands to multiply so we should preserve wild lands because they help agriculture.

The bees thank you. Do you work story by story?

With *Living On Earth* sometimes I sell them stories, sometimes they ask me to do stories. I lead with my interests but within the framework of what is viable. It's often a challenge to come up with a new direction or a new angle. *The Weather Notebook* is a groove of stories that I do a lot. That's easy. The environmental stories on *Living On Earth* are also

pretty predictable in terms of what they're looking for.

As an independent, what does a typical work day look like? How do you design your time?

I create my schedule myself and my week is very full. I'm constantly refining my schedule to see what works best. For example, I don't have weekends off, because I have family obligations one day during the week (Robin is a proud father). And I'll often work late into the evening. I cycle through about five [time] components of work: 1) tying things up from jobs that I've done, 2) finding long term projects like grant writing that will come to fruit a year or more into the future, 3) lining up and selling the next stories, 4) dealing with book-keeping and billing so I can keep the money coming in, and 5) working on my next story—in this case the bees. And then I always throw in something wacky and fun to get the creative juices flowing.

What do you like about radio production?

I love doing radio stories. I like interviewing people. I like the creativity of putting together voices and ideas. It's very powerful to hear my voice on national radio where I'm talking to a lot of people. The most important part is not a vain concern. It's that I can affect a lot of people and can have an impact on the world. On some very small scale, I can change people's opinions and from there policies get changed that I think need changing. But I'm not arrogant about it. I think that the impact that one radio program has is small. But it's part of an overall climate that does have an impact. I think there's a lot of responsibility in radio because it is a privilege to represent people. I always ask myself, "Who am I representing?" And I don't necessarily represent the powers that be. I'm representing people that know and people who want to participate in the discussion. So, even if everybody doesn't get to have their voice on the radio, everybody gets to be represented either by me or people I talk to.

How do you make a living doing radio?

I don't recommend doing radio work. I don't think this is a

viable way to make a living unless you're absolutely crazy because it's just not worth the payoff. It's easy to get into but very difficult to stay in. And yet there are the people who will fall in love with radio and figure out a way to make it happen somehow. There are maybe three different ways to survive in it: One is to get a job at a public station. Another is to get grant funding, which is extremely difficult. The last is to be a freelance radio journalist and sell it

story by story, which is what I do. The best way to do that is to sell your story many times. If you've invested your time and money in a story once, make some different versions of it. A radio story can be sold locally, nationally, and internationally, and in print many more times. The more you sell the story, the more money you make.

What if somebody is turned on by radio, what would you recommend?

You should probably get a taste by volunteering with a radio station. There are some great radio stations in the Bay Area. And some of those have intern and training programs that shouldn't be too difficult to get into if you're really motivated. I've co-created another resource, which is [www.radiocollege.org](http://www.radiocollege.org). It's a training Web site for independent radio producers that helps you get going by telling you what the career is like. And then, winning awards is very important. Having a lot of work that people can point to. I have 15 stories on the *Living On Earth* Web site ([www.loe.org](http://www.loe.org)).

What's your opinion about the links between gay identity and

work identity? Are we different or just like everyone else?

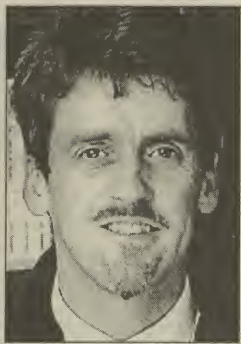
There's a subtle selection of work environments and work communities that goes on with gay people, who need to have a certain degree of safety. I think that you will find more gay people who work for themselves than heterosexuals. I think we avoid workplaces that can be threatening to us. If you look at the kind of jobs we have, and the kind of jobs we choose, it will fall into a pattern. Now, my work has nothing to do with my sexuality, and yet the career choice somehow does, at least in the way I see it.

So it's not so much that the gay gene has made us hairdressers as much as it is the circumstances of homophobia that have put us in a corner, and then within this corner we've done what we could do.

Gay gene? I don't know. I guess I've known so many who don't have the gene! I think it's more that you evolve. Maybe it will be different with kids coming up today. It's a different world. When I was growing up, I was different from all the people around me, and because I couldn't come out, I became an observer of people. I was acutely socially aware and constantly reading what was going on around me to be safe. You check people out looking for signs. And knowing that we're different, we choose to do something different with our lives.

Yes, an observer. They might suspect, but they don't know. So there's safety that comes from observation. Excellent observation! And do you suppose that this observation might lend itself to a different set of skills for the workplace?

Well, it certainly has for me. I'm an observer. That's what I do as a journalist. I'm still looking for



Radio producer Robin White

special signs and it's in a more overt way, and not just signs of homosexuality. What makes me good at what I do is the quality of observation. I notice the details, the little things that make me a good writer because first you have to see what's there. I don't know, maybe it is genetic. But it doesn't really matter does it? There are patterns: who are the designers? Who are the artists? Circumstantial or genetic?

Thank you for your time. Keep up the good work. ▼

**Eric Ganther is a career coach for queers in transition. He is a workshop leader and is writing a book on gay and lesbian work identity. E-mail him your questions, comments, and suggestions: [eric@ericganther.com](mailto:eric@ericganther.com).**

## Correction

Due to an editing mistake, the photo credit in last week's column, "Lesbian directs recruitment," [October 2] was incorrect. The photo of Erin Flynn was taken by Chloe Atkins. We regret the error.

## Davis recalled

◀ page 11

rights for all ... I do believe that gay couples are entitled to full protection under the law and should not be discriminated against based on their relationship."

"We hope that Schwarzenegger's actions will reflect the views stated on his Web site," said Kors.

Schwarzenegger did join Equality California and civil rights groups around the state in opposing Proposition 54, the ballot measure that would have banned collection of racial data by the state. That initiative was overwhelmingly defeated, with 64 percent of voters rejecting the measure. Voters also rejected Proposition 53, which would have allocated 1 percent of the state's budget toward fixing roads and sewers, by the same margin.

"Hopefully, Governor-elect Schwarzenegger's election will send a positive message to the California Republican Party," Kors stated. "By

supporting civil rights, Republican candidates can be elected to statewide office in California. We hope Schwarzenegger can facilitate increased support for civil rights in his party, and we stand ready to work with him to ensure equality for all Californians."

As for the two openly gay gubernatorial candidates, Republican James Vandeventer Jr., a car salesman from Los Angeles, came in with 509 votes, 200 of which came from voters in San Francisco. Democrat Ronald Jason Palmieri, a gay rights attorney from Los Angeles whose campaign message "Don't vote for me" apparently fell on some deaf ears, received 3,729 votes to place 19th out of 135.

An upbeat Vandeventer said Wednesday, "I would do it again in heartbeat" and that he learned in order to win "the main thing is have a big old checkbook."

While he expects Schwarzenegger to be fine as governor, Vandeventer counseled that the first order of business he should ad-

dress is the sexual harassment allegations.

"He has got to get all of this negative publicity with the women behind him to be effective. Otherwise, if he doesn't play his cards right it is going to be a horrible three years for him," he said.

Palmieri, who has been in Amsterdam on business, said while he tried to convince his supporters not to vote for him, most went against his wishes, believing their votes wouldn't make a difference. "I just know I voted against me," said Palmieri, who said he is appalled that the recall passed.

Saying he does not agree in spiteful acts, he said he opposes any recall attempt against Schwarzenegger.

"The opportunity to recall him is so remote it is not worth the resources of the Democratic Party," he said. "I don't think a recall would have a chance in hell of being successful. The Democrats should focus on electing the next president and members of Congress." ▼

## Gwen Araujo

◀ page 14

Foundation addressed the audience and noted that Guerrero had accepted an award on Araujo's behalf last Thursday at the organization's event in San Francisco. Dorf also said that the foundation has announced the establishment of the Gwen Araujo Memorial Fund for Trans-

der Education. So far, \$2,500 has been raised for the fund, Dorf said. The fund will make grants to support school-based programs in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area that promote understanding of transgender people and issues.

Guerrero acknowledged that it's been a "really hard year" for her and her family. She is also braced for the upcoming trial.

"I've read the police reports,

all 500 pages," she said. "It was a very slow torture. It was hours. I never want another parent to go through what I've gone through. Hug your kids—even your teenagers. You never know when it's going to be your last day." ▼

**For information on contributing to the Horizons fund, call (415) 398-2333.**



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## OBITUARIES

# Santa Cruz Trans March this Saturday

by Zak Szymanski

Those cruising the Boardwalk down south this weekend should check out the Santa Cruz Trans March, a youth-organized event for all ages meant to draw attention to issues affecting transgenders of all sexual orientations and genders.

Held in honor of National Coming Out Day on Saturday, October 11, the third annual march is presented by Strange, the Santa Cruz LGBTIQQ youth group, which has proudly reclaimed the "other" definition of queer for its name. It is sponsored by the Diversity Center's Santa Cruz County Task Force for GLBTQ Youth, and the University of California, Santa Cruz GLBTI Resource Center.

The march keeps growing, and is expected to attract more than

100 people this year, according to Strange program coordinator Jorge Brú.

"We wanted an event specifically about transgenders, because things like this happen for gays and lesbians, or for the whole GLBT community, but there's always a sense that trans issues are left out or put on the back burner," said Brú. "This is a way for us to put the 'T' first, for once."

The trans march begins with a sign-making party at 2 p.m. at Santa Cruz's Pergolesi Cafe at 418 Cedar Street.

The march kicks off at 3 p.m. from the Santa Cruz Metro Station, 920 Pacific Avenue, and will pause at the corners of Elm, Lincoln, and Cooper streets to educate shoppers and passersby about the purpose of marching, either through individual conversations or handing out flyers. The march

will reassemble and continue down Pacific Avenue when the signal of loud and festive animal noises is given.

At 4 p.m., the march convenes for a rally at Compass Rose on the north end of Pacific Avenue. An open microphone will be featured at 5 p.m. for the community to define and articulate its issues.

The day wraps up with a 6 p.m. gathering at the Diversity Center, at 177 Walnut Avenue in downtown Santa Cruz, to celebrate National Coming Out Day and the passage of Assemblyman Mark Leno's (D-San Francisco) AB196, the gender nondiscrimination law. Brief group presentations will be made and entertainment will feature local talent.

All LGBTIQQ folks and allies are welcome to participate. For more information, call (831) 425-3155, or visit [www.sccstrange.cjb.net](http://www.sccstrange.cjb.net). ▼

## "Tyrone" Myron Crews

Passed away at the Manor House in San Francisco on September 24th. Thanks to all the staff who ensured he received great care and suffered no pain. Having recently lost his beloved partner Barry in such unexpected and tragic circumstances, Tyrone struggled only briefly with a recurrence of cancer and died peacefully.

Retired for several years after a career with S.F. MUNI, Tyrone was well known to the Castro village community (and more briefly, in Palm Springs when he and Barry took their furniture with them on a 2001 vacation), and will be especially remembered by their friends at Daddy's, the Pendulum, and The Twin Peaks where we shared the occasional cocktail over many years.

Tyrone is survived by his sister, Nancy, and his nephews and nieces in Piedmont, California who ensured he was well cared for to the end. Rest in Peace, old friend, and say a big Hello to Barry from all of us.

Remembrance by donation to the Cancer Society or Project Open Hand, please.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## Coming Out Day

◀ page 1

equality," explained Candace Gingrich, manager of the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's National Coming Out Project, in a phone interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*.

In an editorial sent to media outlets, Gingrich noted that a July 2003 poll commissioned by the HRC Foundation found that 36 percent of those who said they didn't know anyone gay approved of granting "civil marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples, with the same rights, responsibilities, and protections given to other married couples." But the poll also found that 81 percent of those who had a close family member or friend who was gay, lesbian, bi or transgender supported civil marriage equality.

"Remind them that, as family, their silence hurts – but their support heals," writes Gingrich.

This year's focus on not just the queer individual but the family as a whole may also assist LGBT people of color to break out of the closet. For many African Americans and Latinos who opt to remain closeted, they cite fear of losing their family's love and support as a main consideration. In many Asian cultures, homosexuality is hardly discussed, let alone accepted.

Speaking at a conference of gay therapists this summer, Richard Rodriguez, a gay Chicano who is director of counseling and psychological services at Sonoma State University, said counseling someone in their youth to come out may not always be the best advice to give. Rodriguez said in some cases, the devastation of losing one's family may override what personal benefits may come from coming out.

"We can't assume coming out is the best thing culturally for gays and lesbians of color," he said during a panel discussion held in San Francisco.

When talking about coming out, Jasmyne Cannick, the recently hired people of color media manager for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, said oftentimes messages that resonate with white LGBTs do not translate well to a black audience. In particular, Cannick said there is a disconnect between the two communities' priorities.

"A lot of our issues are not the

same issues as those of white LGBT people. One of the biggest issues right now in the white LGBT community is marriage while our issue is how do we stay alive long enough to one day enjoy marriage. [It's] because of the fact most of us are dying of AIDS," said Cannick, who has been working on a documentary examining coming out in black LGBT communities. "That is a much bigger issue than marriage is. Marriage is not one of the biggest issues for our community right now. AIDS and HIV is a much bigger issue."

Recognizing that a blanket coming out message fails to address the needs of certain segments of the LGBT community, HRC created specific coming out information for people who are African American and Latino this year. The organization is currently developing a separate piece for Asians and Pacific Islanders.

"We do recognize that sometimes coming out has its own kind of particular challenges to people of different cultural communities. We are not trying to trick people into thinking once it happens everything is going to be perfect. It comes with risks," said Gingrich. "If a young person is not yet out of high school, they have to figure out if it is safe to come out to their parents. Are they going to kick you out or reject you? If you just started college are they going to support you financially?"

Since taking on the HRC's coming out project in 1998, Gingrich said she had heard from many people of color who wanted advice and guidance for specific circumstances they were facing. She said she hopes to expand the coming out guides to also address certain religions and their stances on homosexuality.

"It is not to compartmentalize people, but rather to acknowledge that for every similarity there is going to be some variance in each person's experience," she said.

Both of the new guides address the unique family structures and ties people who are black or Hispanic may face. They also discuss the role that the Roman Catholic Church plays in shaping the Latino community's stance on gays and how black churches impact African Americans' views on homosexuality.

Noted Cannick, "You have to remember the black community is

very spiritual and religious based. A lot of our mothers, fathers, and grandparents go to church every Sunday and live by their Bible.

"A lot of churches tell you that you are going to go to hell and it is a sin to be gay. When a child comes out, or even when an adult comes out to their parents, it can be catastrophic," she said.

But argues the HRC in its guides, only by coming out can these viewpoints be challenged and addressed.

"The presence of openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender African Americans in the church and within the family will be key to changing the homophobic atmosphere in those institutions," reads the HRC guide.

Adds the guide aimed at Spanish-speakers, "As more GLBT Latinos/os decide to be open and honest with others, the awareness of straight Latinos/os increases. Latinos/os who know someone who is gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender are less likely to believe the stereotypes and misconceptions they may have, and the words they use to describe GLBT people become more positive. The more this happens, the easier it will be to come out to others, especially family."

The family theme will be on display Saturday at Berkeley's Pacific Center, which is marking its 30th anniversary with a "Come Out and Come Home" block party.

"So many of our friends, clients, and volunteers came to the Pacific Center in the first place because of some issue related to the coming out process," noted the center's executive director, Frank Gurucharri.

The party will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Derby Street between Telegraph Avenue and Dana Street. The party will include entertainment, community exhibits, food, and appearances by local GLBT community leaders.

The political overtones of coming out will be on display at more than 40 house parties being organized by supporters of former Vermont Governor Howard Dean, who is running for the 2004 Democratic presidential nomination. A party in San Francisco is being hosted by Dykes for Dean. For information on the event, go to [www.dykesfordean.org](http://www.dykesfordean.org).

For more information about the HRC Foundation's National Coming Out Project, visit [www.hrc.org/ncop](http://www.hrc.org/ncop). ▼

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# Golden erring

by Jim Provenzano

don't wear red.

Despite all the sports hats and T-shirts I've earned, bought, found, or been given, none of them are red.

The only red clothes I own are a scratchy flannel button-down, a sweatshirt with a silk-screen of naked men, and a T-shirt that reads "Coca-Cola" in Arabic.

Hardly Candlestick Park-appropriate garb. Gold being the other color of the San Francisco 49ers football team, I thought a bronzy-yellow T-shirt would do. After all, their skin-colored pants from the old days are what I remembered best.

Gold it was.

## Gold rush

Guilelessly heading off to catch the surprisingly easy and not crowded bus to the NFLian arena of corporate combat.

Sitting outside the New Conservatory Theatre's gates on Van Ness were two guys in red. Their demeanor and colors assured me that the trail had been found, and actually cost \$6, but I enjoyed the bus ride, relieved to know that I'd be on time.

When you're invited to a football game by the first gay professional athlete to come out in the 20th century, David Kopay, you want to be on time, and wear a nice shirt.

## Golden classics

At 60, Kopay stands as the Prometheus of gay athlete awareness.

In his career (1964-72) he was a running back for the San Francisco 49ers, the Detroit Lions, the Washington Redskins, the New Orleans Saints, and the Green Bay Packers. While with the Washington Redskins, he also had a boyfriend, teammate Jerry Smith.

A Washington Redskins tight end through that team's rise to its best season in 21 years (and with Kopay in 1969-70), Smith died of AIDS in 1987.

Kopay's 1977 autobiography smashed preconceived notions about athletes, but kept Smith's name out of the story. He now proudly reminds people of Smith's presence in the NFL.

Kopay manages a successful floor covering business in Los Angeles, where he lives. He speaks at colleges, and occasionally attends a football game, hoping his guest will show up.

## Golden retriever

Arriving at Candlestick Park, I asked a few event staff where the alumni tailgate party was, and was told to go to Gate F. It would be the first of many misinformed tips.

Inside, finally, beneath an escalator, a gargantuan inflatable goal post served as the punting cage for several fans.

Under a nearby enclosed tent, I asked the MC if the alumni would be out soon. He said yes. Then four cheerleaders were brought out, for a one-hour photo op with fans.

Mr. Kopay wasn't brought out, but a few other alumni players were.

So I went out and asked another bee-yellow jacketed event staffer (Duh!) where the alumni tailgate party was. "Go to Gate B." Then I was told to —

Basically, I did a lot of walking that morning.

I blame it on not wearing red.

## The red, see

Pouring into the gates; red jackets, red caps, red shirts and jerseys, then one gold, more red, and more red.

I could have gone in with a football helmet on backward, shirtless, face-painted, with red and gold Mardi Gras beads coming out of my ears, and I would have blended in more easily.

But I didn't, so I didn't, but I did find the alumni area, no thanks to the event staff's misdirections. The complimentary beverages and food — and my host — were found.

The urge to buy a red raiment as camouflage faded. Kopay's having once played for the 49ers opponent that day, the Detroit Lions, displaced such sanguine tribalism.

After another winding tour, we found our seats, in "the freebie section," with other alumni, kids, volunteers, and, amusingly, a group of Fleet Week guys in Navy whites.

You could spend a lot of time and money to get out to Candlestick (\$20-50 a ticket, \$25 parking, \$30 a shirt, \$7.50 a beer). Obviously a lot of people do.

But nothing beats getting an astute play-by-play from a man who ran on that field while mutually admiring nearby sailors and shirtless hotties.

## Golden rule

As watching the game from behind adjacent bleachers became problematic, Kopay offered his thoughts on the recent batch of sports flare-ups.

Of Rush Limbaugh's blimpish implosion of stupidity: "He's a fool." Kopay also believes Limbaugh's coworkers should have spoken up more.

New York Giants tight end Jeremy Shockey, who told shock jock Howard Stern, "If I knew there was a gay guy on my college football team, I probably wouldn't,

n't, you know, stand for it," then called his coach "a homo." Kopay believes that Shockey has had "a chance to educate himself" following his apology.

Kopay's attempts to talk with fundamentalist Reggie White were dismissed by the NFL, after White had his antigay media whirl in 1998 for equating gay people to "liars, cheaters, [those who are] malicious and back stabbers."

Kopay was "absolutely appalled that someone of White's stature would be so insensitive to a group that has faced so much discrimination and bigotry."

And the latest, on the home team, 49er Garrison Hearst, declared in 2002, "I don't want any faggots on my team. I know this might not be what people want to hear, but that's a punk."

Although Hearst did apologize, and coach Steve Mariucci said at the time, "It doesn't matter where (a player is) from or his sexual orientation... Is he good enough to play for the 49ers? If that's the case, then he can be on my football team."

After having supported gays, 49ers, and even gay 49ers, by Sunday's game, Mariucci was, of course, coaching the other team, the Detroit Lions.

Maybe I should have worn blue.

## Gold member

But not even that string of slurs is the problem.

How many of those fans still don't think gay football players can exist, or should? Even as Kopay was being paid tribute while standing on center field, did any father say, "You know, son, that one's gay, and also played football."

Could it happen, a gay player come out while playing?

"We are there, in the game. Get used to it," Kopay has and will say. He hopes it can some day.

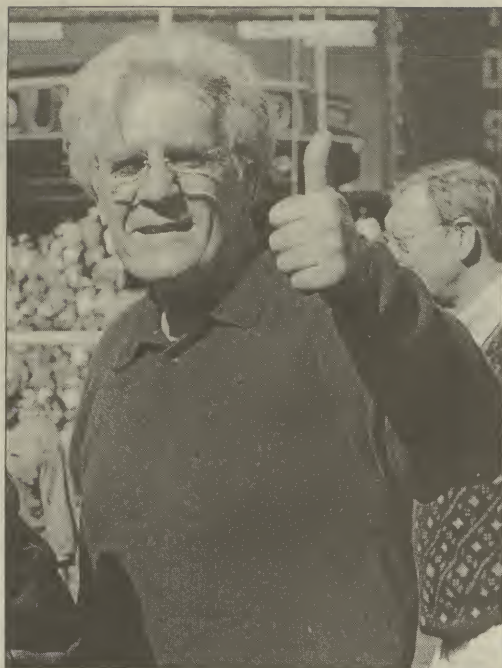
Idealistic? Expect no less from a guy who knew Harvey Milk, posed for *After Dark*, and whose athletic career spanned the grooviest era in U.S. history.

## Golden age

"People were really nice. It was just like old times," Kopay said of his recent visit to the Bay Area, which included watching the team practice and a dinner with other former gridiron giants.

At halftime, Kopay and other alumni prepared for the on-field presentation. Groups of tiny kids in football uniforms carried posters of different eras.

Players ambled out: from the 1940s, Earl Parsons; the 1950s, John Brody; the 1960s, Kopay and about seven others, and up. Joe Montana and Steve Young were



Retired pro football player David Kopay flashes a thumbs up sign during the halftime ceremony honoring former 49ers players Sunday.

not present.

Fans cheered in reverence, or went to get another beer.

At one point later in the game, a brawl in the stands got more attention than most plays. The 49ers won 24-17.

Leaving the game proved much easier. Kopay and I met with his hosts in the heart of the Castro Street Fair's late afternoon, where decompressing into gayer, and less red, territory proved amusing.

But unlike Mason Marzac, the fey business manager in Richard Greenberg's play *Take Me Out*, whose friendship with a famous gay athlete culminates into a fascination for baseball, I won't be sporting any pointy foam fingers just yet.

I can understand the passion, the tailgate picnic chic, the love of the game, the mood swings of the crowd, booing Jeff Garcia one moment, then cheering rabidly after a fantastic play, even the ones we didn't see.

We did see Tony Parrish's pivotal 59-yard interception, which happened at our end of the field.

Getting another batch of stories, putting names together, Kopay's anecdotes helped momentarily personalize the behemoth of athletics, but it remains the machine that excludes us,

until we're off the field.

So, if you're going to go to a game, you might as well go with a pro. But wear red. It's easier.

## Her name is El Rio

With new teams forming, there'll be lots of different colors in the San Francisco Women's Flag Football League.

Their fundraiser on Saturday, October 11 at the El Rio promises to be a lot of fun.

El Rio's at 3158 Mission Street between Cesar Chavez and Valencia. From 3 to 8 p.m., for only \$7, you can enjoy a barbecue lunch, while bands and musicians perform, including: Drip Joy, Bellini Sunday, The Hunks, Patty Boss, Sally Lieber, Jess Brown, Carrie Baum, and Terese Taylor, plus an appearance by the Culture Shock Dance Troupe.

Raffles all day for prizes worth up to \$200 each, will help raise funds for the SFWFFL for field fees, sports equipment, referee fees, insurance to run the league, and to keep women's flag football going strong in the Bay Area.

Visit [www.sfwffl.org](http://www.sfwffl.org) for more info. ▼

**Jim Provenzano is the author of *PINS* and *Monkey Suits*. Google him.**

## Marriage

◀ page 12

United Methodist Church, in announcing the counterdemonstration. "It is time that other clergy members also stand up and be counted so that the debate is not framed as religion versus equality for gay and lesbian people."

Williams, who has been performing spiritual unions between same-sex couples since the 1960s, will be a keynote speaker along with his wife, Janice Mirikitani, at the Come Out for Equality event.

Davina Kotulski, a MECA chapter director and psychologist, will address the difference between civil marriage and religious marriage. An opening prayer will be conducted by the Reverend Cheryl Kirk-Duggan, director of the Center for Women and Religion at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. Allison Rod-

man, of Chapel of the Chimes, will talk about the pain of having to enforce the wishes of a biological family to exclude a grieving surviving partner from the funeral and burial arrangements of their deceased partner.

Sylvia Rhue, director of the California Freedom to Marry Coalition, will present the film *All God's Children*, a documentary addressing homophobia within the African American community. Molly McKay, Marriage Equality Northern California executive director, will discuss how the spiritual community can assist in the fight for full marriage equality.

The event will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Oakland. For location and to RSVP, call (510) 332-0973 or e-mail [drkotulski@aol.com](mailto:drkotulski@aol.com). MECA is also asking people to call the White House comment line to protest Bush's proclamation at (202) 456-1111. ▼



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## AB 205

◀ page 3

other example of his antigay activities, Koretz pointed out.

"Two weeks ago, 75 percent of Republican legislators in Sacramento, led by Pete Knight, signed a letter demanding the removal of a small paving stone honoring gay war heroes at the California Veterans Memorial," Koretz said. "On September 22, Knight, along with the Alliance Defense Fund, filed a lawsuit in Sacramento Superior Court to block the implementation of AB205." ▼



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## LEGAL NOTICES

**STATEMENT FILE 0269756-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Homemarkit. 1326 Cabrillo Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark Andrew Cecil. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/08/2003.  
**SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0269891-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Quarter Moon Press. 769 Cole Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Clinton Seiter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/12/2003.  
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**SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-03-540940**  
In the Matter of the Application of Benjamin Michael Kiely For change of Name. The application of Benjamin Michael Kiely for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Benjamin Michael Kiely has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Nicholas Michael Kiely Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 11th day of December at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-03-540938**  
In the Matter of the Application of Steven Melbourne Tanape For change of Name. The application of Steven Melbourne Tanape for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Steven Melbourne Tanape has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Lee Ann Rose Tanape Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 11th day of December at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0269934-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Lu's Tile & Marble Service. 2329 32nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael Lu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 15, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/15/2003.  
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**STATEMENT FILE 0270026-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Left Coast Lifestyles. 15 Lucerne Street #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94103-5658. This business is conducted by an individual signed Marcus Alexander Loy III. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/18/2003.  
**SEPT. 25, OCT. 2, 9, 16, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0269994-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Golden Car. 730 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nopakun Ouitayakul. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/17/2003.  
**SEPT. 25, OCT. 2, 9, 16, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0269625-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Video City #3274. 1590 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Ivy Jernigan-VP/Controller. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 14, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/03/2003.  
**SEPT. 25, OCT. 2, 9, 16, 2003**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 03-540951**  
In the Matter of the Application of Minh Van Nguyen, Patrick Tuan Le, Sophia Phuong Le For change of Name. The application of Minh Van Nguyen, Patrick Tuan Le, Sophia Phuong Le for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Minh Van Nguyen, Patrick Tuan Le, Sophia Phuong Le has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Minh Tich Vu, Patrick Tuan Vu, Sohia Phuong Vu. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 18th day of December at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**SEPT. 25, OCT. 2, 9, 16, 2003**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 03-540953**  
In the Matter of the Application of Giord Joseph Tillman, III, Samantha Michelle Tillman For change of Name. The application of Giord Joseph Tillman, III, Samantha Michelle Tillman for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Giord Joseph Tillman, III, Samantha Michelle Tillman has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Giord Joseph St. Martin. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 4th day of December at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**SEPT. 25, OCT. 2, 9, 16, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270196-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: CDX/DLD J.V. 1595 Fairfax Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by a joint venture signed Steven N. Chupresider. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 23, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/24/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0269872-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Molas. 4035 18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jose A. Canto. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/24/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 03-540950**  
In the Matter of the Application of Tana Marietta Chrisman For change of Name. The application of Tana Marietta Chrisman for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Tana Marietta Chrisman has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Montana Marietta Chrisman. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of November at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270227-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Lilliputian Pictures. 3553 20th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Joseph R. Goldstone. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 25, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/25/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0269973-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: CM Recruiting. 439 Moraga Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Christina K. Murphy. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 15, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/17/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270262-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Wing Cheung Co. 2832 Fulton Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yau Sunny W. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 26, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/26/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270253-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Ba And Such. 1382 Underwood Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ba Huynh. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 26, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/26/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**  
To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Richmond New May Wah Supermarket Inc. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #560 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 709-711 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. Type of license Applied for:  
**21- OFF-SALE GENERAL**  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270329-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bangkok Noodles. 156 Powell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Somnuk Loul. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/30/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270327-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: West Portal Shoe Service. 79 West Portal Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed George Bartsiakos. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 30, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/30/2003.  
**OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270363-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Irdescent. 3937 17th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Daniel Nicholas Warth. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/01/2003.  
**OCT. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2003**

**STATEMENT FILE 0270323-00**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Rosie's. 3463 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Everardo Duenas. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 30, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/30/2003.  
**OCT. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2003**

## LEGAL NOTICES

## BLACK INFANT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Black Infant Health Improvement Program (Bi-Hip) is a free program that provides supportive services to pregnant and parenting African American women with children up to 2 years of age. If you or someone you know is a woman that needs help finding a doctor, getting to appointments, connecting to community resources, preparing for a new baby, or just someone to talk to, please call Bi-Hip at (415) 671-0214.

## 2003 PET PRIDE DAY

Pet Pride Day will be held on Sunday, October 26, 2003, at Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park. It is hosted by San Francisco Animal Care and Control. Registration 8:00 a.m. Registration 10:00 a.m. Events 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## VACANCY NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 54974, California Government Code, notice is hereby given of the following unscheduled vacancies. Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee. 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the City's web site: [www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs](http://www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs). Please Note: Depending upon the posting date, some vacancies may have already been filled. To determine if vacancies for this Board/Committee/Commission or Task Force are still available please call the Rules Committee Clerk at 554-5184.

**TREASURE ISLAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD**  
The Treasure Island Development Authority Citizen's Advisory Board is comprised of 25 persons, 11 of whom shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors and 14 of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor.

The purpose of the Treasure Island Development Authority Citizens Advisory Board is to gather public input and opinion from diverse communities in San Francisco and to provide additional expertise to the Treasure Island Development Authority. Specifically, the CAB will provide recommendations to the Authority concerning the final review and implementation of the draft reuse plan dated July, 1996, policies and objectives for interim reuse, and other matters of importance to the future of Treasure Island and all citizens of San Francisco at the Board of Directors of the Authority may refer to the CAB from time to time. In providing advice and recommendations, the CAB shall strive to reflect the values and interests of the various communities in the City.

Vacant seats 6, 7, and 11 are for the unexpired portion of a four year term ending January 1, 2005. For information as to what experience is required, please go to the web site: [www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs](http://www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvs), or call the Rules Committee Clerk at 415-554-5184.

## DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

**BROWN BAG LUNCH TALKS** at 1660 Mission Street, Room 2001 (second floor), Thursdays, Noon to 1:30 P.M.

The Department welcomes you to attend a series of informal, general information talks presented at no charge to the public and City staff. Bring your lunch; coffee and other drinks will be provided. October 16, 2003 Lead Paint Rules, Regulation, and Enforcement  
Department of Building Inspection staff

NOTE: Persons unable to attend are invited to mail their comments or questions, to request material hand out, or to call and speak with department staff. Please contact Laurence Kornfield, Chief Building Inspector, Technical Services Division at (415) 558-6205 for further information.

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS OR CITATION

## CASE NUMBER: FLS-92-048472

Upon reading and filing evidence consisting of a declaration as provided in Section 415.50 CCP by petitioner, and it satisfactorily appearing therefrom that the defendant, respondent, or citee Freddy Guardado, cannot be served with reasonable diligence in any other manner specified in article 3, Chapter 4, Title 5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and it also appearing from the verified complaint or petition that a good cause of action exists in this action in favor of the plaintiff, petitioner, or citee therein and against the action or that the party to be served has or claims an interest in, real or personal property in this state that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Court or the relief demanded in the action consists wholly or in part in excluding such party from any interest in such property. NOW, on motion of Angela Hodgson, Petitioner(s), IT IS ORDERED that the service of said summons or citation in this action be made upon said defendant, respondent, or citee by publication thereof in The Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation published at San Francisco California, hereby designated as the newspaper most likely to give notice to said defendant, that said publication be made at least once a week for four successive weeks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of said summons or citation and of said complaint or petition in this action be forthwith deposited in the United States Post Office, post-paid, directed to said defendant, respondent, or citee if his address is ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for the publication of this summons or citation and a declaration of this mailing or of the fact that the address was not ascertained be filed at the expiration of the time prescribed for the publication. Charlotte Walter Woolard, Judge of the Superior Court.

**OCTOBER 9, 16, 23, 30, 2003**

## STATEMENT FILE 0269833-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Allfix Handy. 56 Seville Street, San Francisco, 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Alberto Benavides. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 10, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/10/2003.  
**OCT. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2003**

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 261755

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Rosie's Florist. Located at: 1155 Market Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business was conducted by an individual signed Everardo Duenas. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: October 22, 2002.  
**OCTOBER 9, 16, 23, 30, 2003**

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS #250

## Dear Potential Applicant:

The City and County of San Francisco, Department of Human Services (DHS) is seeking to provide funding to qualified organizations that provide services for disabled children. This is inclusive to any organization that benefits children with disabilities. The funding for this activity will come from the Zigmunt Arendt Estate, which bequeathed money to benefit disabled children groups.

The grant period will run from 2/1/04 for a maximum amount of \$1,255,000.

An RFQ packet may be picked up at SF/DHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, Friday, October 10, 2003. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM.

The RFQ packet and subsequent updates may be downloaded from the City's website on or after October 10, 2003. Go to: [HTTP://SUNSET.CI.SF.CA.US/PBIDS.NSF](http://SUNSET.CI.SF.CA.US/PBIDS.NSF) and click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Friday, October 17, 2003 at 9:00 AM at 170 Otis Street, Born Auditorium, SF, CA. For further information, call Johanna Gendelman, at (415) 557-5162. Due date for responses is Monday, November 10, 2003 at 5:00 PM.  
10/09/03 • CNS-592854#  
BAY AREA REPORTER

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: A-0261549-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Dream Gift & Varieties. Located at: 347 Judah Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business was conducted by a husband and wife signed Leslie I. Tsang and Jason Tsang. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: October 11, 2002.  
**OCTOBER 9, 16, 23, 30, 2003**

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Ouitayakul Nopakun. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 730 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. Type of license Applied for:  
**41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE**  
**OCTOBER 9, 2003**



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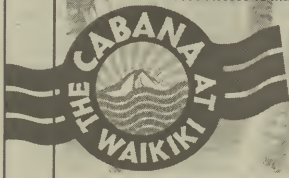
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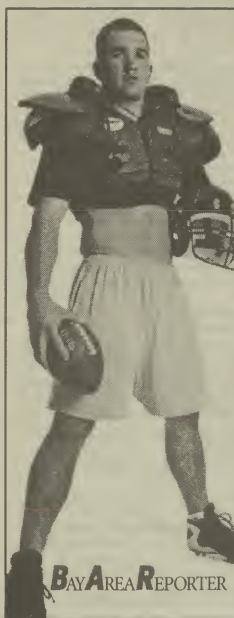
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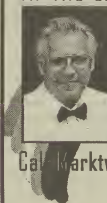


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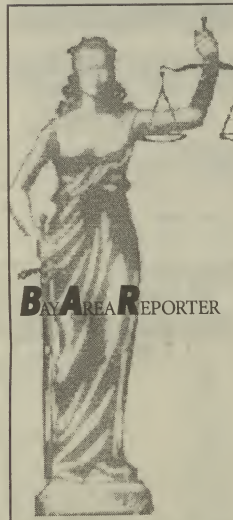
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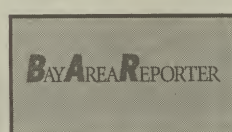
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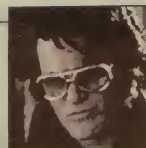


**'Fanny' dancing with Edmund White**  
His new novel 'Fanny: A Fiction' revisits  
the Apostle of Free Love, Frances Wright.  
page 35

**Mann power**  
Sara Shelton Mann's  
'Monk' at Yerba Buena.  
page 33



**Elvis meets JFK**  
An unlikely duo in a most  
strange film at the Castro.  
page 34



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 41 • 9 October 2003

## America, meet the minimum wage

by Richard Dodds

### Sharon Lockwood is *Nickel and Dimed* at Brava Theatre Center

For those who know Sharon Lockwood from her years as a member of the San Francisco Mime Troupe, campy comedy must seem her forte. After all, her roles have included Norma Desmond, Joan Rivers, and Nancy Reagan. But none of that comes through in a conversation with the amiably straightforward actress, now starring in *Nickel and Dimed* at the Brava Theatre Center.

"When I started out acting, I was so far from the comedian," Lockwood said. "I was Laura in *Glass Menagerie* and Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker*. When my high school drama teacher saw me in a Mime Troupe show in Los Angeles, she couldn't believe it. She said, 'What are you doing? You are a great dramatic actress!'"

Lockwood was a college dropout, quitting school after one year to move to San Francisco and join the Mime Troupe. For years, Lockwood performed in the Troupe's outdoor touring shows, where you have to be big and loud to hold an audience's attention. The Mime Troupe's writers began tailoring roles for Lockwood's comic tendencies.

"I became known in the Bay Area as this comedienne, and it could be hard because people want to label you," Lockwood said. "Fortunately, some directors who didn't know my work came to direct things in San Francisco and cast me in things that people here would never have read me for."

Lockwood's last appearance with the Mime Troupe was eight years ago, and more recently she has found roles at major regional theaters around the country. *Nickel and Dimed*, her current project, started at the Intiman Theatre in Seattle before moving to the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles. In this case, her Mime Troupe reputation helped land her the meaty role.

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Sharon Lockwood in  
Joan Holden's adaptation  
of Barbara Ehrenreich's  
*Nickel and Dimed*.

Craig Schwartz

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



# Take the wig down from the shelf

Hedwig lives on in tribute album benefiting LGBT youth

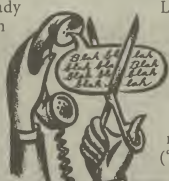


Trask returns with Hedwig songs.

by Roberto Friedman

A heapin' handful of new music albums either just out or set to be released this month have already taken quite a few spins on Out There's old CD deck. Let us share the bounty.

The creative spirits behind the great rock musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, John Cameron Mitchell and Stephen Trask, have compiled a tribute album, *Wig in a Box: Songs from & Inspired by Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Off Records), in which quite an impressive collec-



## Out There

tion of rock stars perform songs from the play/movie and make them their own.

We're talking such glittering luminaries as **Rufus Wainwright** doing "The Origin of Love," **Sleater-Kinney** & the **B-52s'** **Fred Schneider** on "Angry Inch," **Frank Black** (perfect on "Sugar Daddy"), **Imperial Teen** ("Freaks," natch), **The Breeders** ("Wicked Little Town"), **Bob Mould** ("Nailed"), and oh, the list goes on. Would you believe

**Yoko Ono & Yo La Tengo** doing "Hedwig's Lament"? Mitchell and Trask even contribute a new Hedwig song, "Milford Lake." The album's proceeds will go to the Hetrick Martin Institute, home of the **Harvey Milk School**, a New York City public high school for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. Release date is Oct. 21; for info, go to [offrecords.com](http://offrecords.com).

Just out this week is the original cast recording from *Avenue Q* (Victor), the new hit Broadway musical by **Robert Lopez**, **Jeff Marx** and **Jeff Whitty** featuring fresh young actors and *Sesame Street*-like lifesize puppets. In fact,



Kate Monster and Stephanie D'Abruzzo in *Avenue Q*

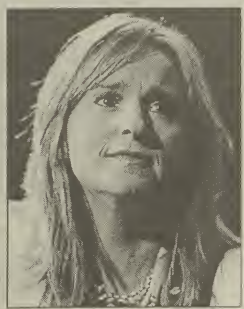
the show's creators are alumni of the **Jim Henson Company** and the **Sesame Workshop**, though a disclaimer in the CD booklet disavows any connection with those groups. No wonder, since the musical numbers include "Everyone's a Little Bit Racist," "If You Were Gay" (sung by a Bert clone to an Ernie clone) and "The Internet Is for Porn." There's even a song explaining the concept of "Schadenfreude," though we're sure Nazi-admirer **Ahnold** needs no translation for that. *Achtung, baby!*

Meantime, we've been driving our friends and associates nuts for years by playing Scottish mope-rock band **Belle & Sebastian** discs to distraction ("Stars of track and field you are!") Remember when Belle & Seb got to do the soundtrack to **Todd Solondz'** rather creepy movie *Storytelling*? Neither does anyone else. With this week's release of the new B&S album *Dear Catastrophe Waitress* (Sanctuary), we've got one more chance to win people over (or send them over the edge). Why, the famously bitchy *New York Observer* even says in its review that on their new disc, B&S "don't sound so twee." Praise indeed!

Lead singer and songwriter **Stuart Murdoch** "has left the melancholy Highlands and seen America," enthuses the *Observer*: "the bright lights of New York City, baseball games in San Francisco. Listen to '[Mike] Piazza, New York Catcher,' in which he attends a Mets-Padres game and wonders if Piazza is 'straight or gay.'" Sounds just like *Our Kind of Murdoch* to sort out the pitchers from the catchers.

Also worth a spin: new albums by **David Bowie** (*Reality*) and **Elvis Costello** (*North*), and the new disc from Brazilian songstress **Virginia Rodrigues**, called *Mares Profundos*. The Bowie is accomplished pop from Columbia; the Elvis is a mature

classical song-cycle from Deutsche Grammophon; and the Rodrigues (Edge) is pure aural pleasure. Recommended for anyone with thirsty ears.



Melissa Etheridge gets betrothed.

## Bridal crop

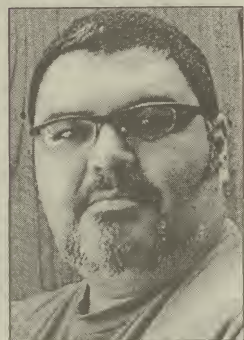
Grammy-winning singer **Melissa Etheridge** exchanged vows with her girlfriend, actress **Tammy Lynn Michaels**, in a weekend ceremony in Malibu last month, the AP reported. You might have missed it, with all the gropings in the news lately.

A statement from Etheridge's publicist described the two as married, although of course homosexual couples cannot legally marry in California. Etheridge wore a beaded linen jacket and crepe trousers, while Michaels wore a white lace coat and a white gown. Their platinum and diamond wedding bands were custom-made.

Etheridge, 41, and Michaels, the 28-year-old star of TV's *Popular*, met two years ago. They live in Southern California with Etheridge's daughter and son.

Etheridge shares custody of the children with former lover **Julie Cypher**, who had the children through artificial insemination using a sperm donation from rocker **David Crosby**. That's sure some boldface sperm.

In a similar vein, the *NY Post's* "PageSix" column reports that "the protagonist in **Spike Lee's** next movie, *She Hate Me*, is a fired Harvard-educated whistle-blower forced to earn a living by impregnating high-powered lesbians, including an ex-girlfriend." That's what we call a hard day's work. Lee, press on!



Jaime Cortez will read his fiction.

## Poetic license

Two young writers, **Jaime Cortez** and **Amarnath Ravva**, explore religion, politics and sexuality in a *Diaspora Poetics* reading on Monday, October 13, 8 p.m., at New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St., San Francisco. Cortez

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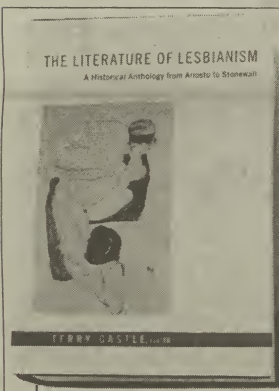
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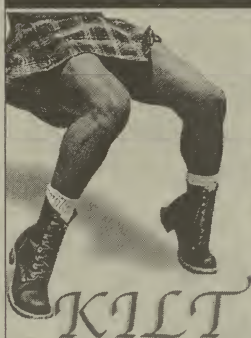
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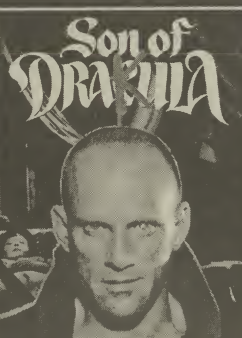


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## THEATRE

# Overcoming their histories

Gay Palestinian/Israeli couple in New Conservatory's 'Salam Shalom'

by Richard Dodds

**P**alestinians know the truth. Israelis know the truth. "What we need is a third truth," says one of the characters in *Salam Shalom ... A Tale of Passion*. Part of New Conservatory Theatre Center's season of gay-centric plays, it entangles its romantic battle lines with another seemingly endless war.

Playwright Saleem sets out to reduce the Arab-Jewish conflict to its smallest possible configuration — two people — and then adds several twists. These inadvertent and wary housemates at UC Berkeley, one a Palestinian, the other an Israeli, are gay and increasingly attracted to each other. The passion of their love, they innocently believe, will overcome the political, religious, and social obstacles that confront them both in America and after returning to their families in the Middle East.

Saleem, who also co-stars as the Palestinian half of the couple, has been performing *Salam Shalom* at different venues since 1995. The politics sadly have not become dated, as exemplified by the Haifa suicide bombing on the day the play opened in San Francisco. But *Salam Shalom* is at its best in the first act, when the story is at its most personal.



Saleem, left, and Bradford Cooreman in *Salam Shalom, A Tale of Passion*

That is not surprising, for the first act was directly inspired by Saleem's relationship in Los Angeles with an Israeli man. There are honesty and gentle humor in the intimacy of these two men that evaporate when Saleem tries to create a fictional future for his protagonists, in a Middle East where clichés begin to intrude.

Director Mike Ward's production for NCTC is not a particularly effective showcase for the play. The staging is awkward, and the pace is slow (and, on opening night, sound and light cues were

particularly clumsy). Ward is credited with providing additional scenes, so it is unclear whether to blame Saleem or Ward for the heavy-handed speeches that the supporting characters periodically deliver from what look like recording booths on each side of the stage.

The performances are a mixed bag as well. Saleem is assured and generally appealing in a role he has played many times before, but his days of playing 30-year-olds are well over. Robert Cooper, as his father, looks younger than he does. Bradford Cooreman just gets by as the young Israeli in a performance of limited charisma. As the cou-

ple's best friend in Berkeley, an amiable Danielle Thys plays the character as if she were in a state of constant inebriation.

David Kirkpatrick and Nafees Hamid, as an Israeli army officer and a Palestinian militant, don't get much beyond the stereotypes of their roles. Ann Kuchins and Sheri Bass complete the case with appropriate performances.

*Salam Shalom* is an interesting hybrid of play, assembling ele-

ments that are rarely dramatized together. But it is a play that requires a deft production and inviting performances, qualities that are in limited supply here. ▼

*Salam Shalom ... A Tale of Passion* will run at the New Conservatory Theatre Center through Oct. 26. Tickets are \$18-\$28. Call 861-8972 or go to [www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org).

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## Spanish blood

'Blood Poet Lorca' compels

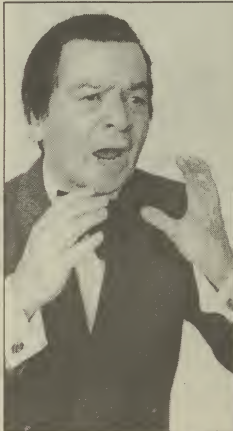
by Richard Dodds

**I**n Luis Oropeza's affecting one-man play about Federico Garcia Lorca, the Spanish literary icon believes himself immune from political persecution because he is "only a poet." Of course, he was more than that, as he well understood, but this conjured invincibility led him to taunt his enemies until he was forever silenced at the start of the Spanish Civil War.

*Blood Poet Lorca* imagines Lorca in the last moments of his life, imprisoned in an abandoned classroom where he waits for, but still hopes against, his impending murder. In these 90 minutes, scenes from his life, his work, and his dreams flood together for this still-young man whose casual arrogance begins to crumble as the end draws near.

In both his writing and his performance, Oropeza manages to escape many of the pitfalls of solo biographical drama. He avoids chronological dullness and ennobling artifice, and his performance is filled with the surprises of human honesty. Oropeza even lets Lorca be silly, which takes daring when dealing with a cultural saint. But when there is passion or anger, it is full-throttle, which is not the same thing as being loud. Lorca's homosexuality is presented through his descriptive admiration of the male form and by his desperate, hopeless wish for solace from a lover in his last moments.

In the tiny second space at Actors Theatre of San Francisco, Oropeza receives a production worthy of his efforts. Director John Maloney has Oropeza make



Oropeza's play is worthy of Lorca.

imaginative use of Christopher Kristant's simple but effective set, and has ably guided the performer through the continual emotional switchbacks. The sound design by Cliff Carruthers and lighting by Rob Robertson further enhance the production.

Yes, there are moments when the play drags or can become confusing, and it's hard not to be at least occasionally distracted by the considerable tremors afflicting Oropeza's right hand. But in a way, this contributes to the bravery of a performance that does its subject proud. ▼

*Blood Poet Lorca* will run at the Actors Theatre of San Francisco through Nov. 2. Tickets are \$20. Call 273-5164.

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# Siberian sizzle in Davies Hall

Violin virtuoso Vadim Repin dazzles with Brahms concerto

by Philip Campbell

If anyone ever needed proof that hearing great music performed live can be a transcendent experience, the confirming evidence was on proud display at Davies Hall during the last two weeks of San Francisco Symphony concerts. Triumphant guest appearances and a thrilling Mahler interpretation sent listeners back into the real world with uplifted spirits and a renewed faith in the power of music.

Last week, Siberian violinist Vadim Repin returned to the Bay Area toting his 1708 Stradivarius "Ruby" (on loan from the Stradivarius Society of Chicago) to power his way through the Brahms Violin Concerto.

Always a flawless technician, Repin also showed an insight into the structure of the work that propelled the listener through all three movements with an exceptional intensity and excitement.



Repin powered his way through.

That is not to say he short-changed the lyrical moments. His strength and purity of tone also have a sweetness that is pleasing without ever becoming cloying. There are more emotional versions of the Brahms Concerto on record, and others have a certain re-

strained elegance. Repin takes a middle ground that showcases his breathtaking dexterity while revealing the composer's inspiration.

The conquering hero won a well-deserved standing ovation and several curtain calls, but did not play an encore. It was a minor disappointment that wisely left the crowd only wanting more.

The concert that night opened with the world premiere performance of an SFS-commissioned work by composer Colin Matthews. Michael Tilson Thomas has championed his work in the past and continues to promote an already illustrious career.

Matthews' credentials must have mightily impressed MTT when they were both associated with the London Symphony Orchestra, and who could blame him? As an academic, administrator, arranger and collaborator, Matthews has forged a place in music history quite independent of his remarkable composing skills.

*Reflected Images* is the latest ex-

ample of an individual voice that clearly has talent without pushing the limits or making a strident point. Unfortunately, that did not make for a very fulfilling listening experience this time.

In his brief and helpful opening statement, MTT advised the audience that the final chord would leave us wondering what would happen next. He also outlined the content of the four movements.

At a mere 15 minutes, the piece suddenly ended, and I actually thought it was only the conclusion of the first movement. Concision and subtlety are fine traits in a composer, but there was an unsatisfying feeling of slightness that left me not only wondering what would happen next, but demanding it.

If Debussy's *Preludes* prompted Matthews to write the pretty and intriguing (and beautifully orchestrated) score, I wish they had also given him the courage to assert his own vision more effu-

sively. I have heard and admired bigger pieces by this composer, and I understand his concept of finding four ways to look at the same thing. No doubt, several more hearings would make his present intentions clearer.

San Francisco crowds can handle tough assignments. Matthews needn't be shy next time.

## Holding Fourth

The week before, MTT gave the audience a simpler assignment. Since the orchestra was recording the Mahler Fourth as part of their ongoing cycle, he only asked them to be as quiet as humanly possible — especially during the very soft third movement.

After a rather generalized beginning albeit a well-played one, the maestro and his musicians warmed to their task, and the temperature really began to rise. By the time the third movement began to unfold, one could have literally heard a pin drop.

It was one of those MTT moments that crackle with electricity and intense involvement. Then, once, twice, an amazing four times, some idiot's cell phone rang! The conductor threw his hands up, then down to his sides in disgust. He actually paced the podium while members of the chagrined assembly pondered forming a posse.

There was nothing for it: MTT took the musicians back a few bars and re-launched. Despite the difficulty of recapturing the magical mood, everyone was soon back on track, and the glorious blaze of music that heralds the finale moved Mahler's lovely and most un-neurotic masterpiece through to an exquisite conclusion.



Claycomb: pleasures of heaven

The vocal contribution from soprano Laura Claycomb seemed just right. Her wide-eyed but sweetly humorous chronicle of the pleasures of heaven reminded me of my previous favorite, Elly Ameling. Not too shabby for a replacement singer!

Christine Schaffer was originally scheduled, but had to cancel due to a death in her family. It was unfortunate that Claycomb's potentially star-making place in the Symphony's Mahler recordings should come from another's loss, but I am still happy for her success.

Claycomb is one to watch. Ever since her appearance during last summer's Weimar Festival, I have longed to hear more of her. During the first half of the most recent concert, she dazzled in Mozart's *Exsultate, jubilate*. Not only did she manage the most difficult runs and lyrical pages, but she also displayed the beginnings of a most fetching and accomplished trill. Her partnership with MTT is off to a fine and auspicious start. ▼

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## DANCE

# Contraband's future

Sara Shelton Mann returns with 'Monk'

by Michael Wade Simpson

Sara Shelton Mann is a legend. Contraband, her dance/theater/performance group, evolved from 1979-96 into a hybrid form that not only represented what was unique about the San Francisco scene, but changed dance itself. In a field where "New York" was everything, Mann was radically "California." Her work not only showed the possibilities of communal focus rather than one choreographer's vision, her very outlook on the world was far removed from the inbred, been-there done-that cynicism that characterized so much of the downtown scene in Manhattan. Contraband was never about technique. They were tattoo people who made up their own songs, banged on cans, and were more comfortable dancing around a bonfire at a foggy beach than on a stage with lighting. They were youth, joy, passion and physicality, wildness, sex, music. Contraband was messy and perfect at the same time.

That this bohemian empire managed to survive as long as it did was some kind of miracle. But, of course, the money finally ran out. Many of the original Contraband dancers scattered to attempt their individual survival in better-funded places like Europe. Locally, theaters closed down, grants disappeared, rents for rehearsal space and even living accommodations became so unaffordable that the only young people who could afford to be dancers anymore came with trust funds or full-time day jobs. Sara Shelton Mann left town.

But now she's back. Things haven't got a whole lot better in San Francisco, but Contraband has reformed as a pick-up group, Shelton Mann has an Artist-in-Residency at Yerba Buena Center



Marintha Tewksbury of Sara Shelton Mann's Contraband in the world premiere of *Monk* at YBCA.

barrage of multimedia projections on the screen and the collage sound score, which took the place of live music, except for a sweet song by Peter Whitehead that opened the show and seemed to reference the old days.

Lost is the homespun quality and the intimacy created by performances at ODC Theater and the defunct Theatre Artaud. On the big

**Contraband was youth, joy, passion and physicality, wildness, sex, music. Contraband was messy and perfect at the same time.**

for the Arts and a Guggenheim Fellowship, and *Monk*, an evening-length work that the choreographer has been presenting in-progress for the last several years, was staged at Yerba Buena last weekend.

Called "an ongoing journey, memories and experiences observed through dance, video, music and text in a nonlinear monologue," *Monk* presents a new look and feel for Contraband. Gone are the days when you sensed that this company not only danced, but slept and ate together. Mann herself wasn't even dancing, replaced by Kathleen Hermsdorf, but really played by all the dancers.

#### Types cast

*Monk* is about "the personal within the collective," and what Shelton Mann seems to have done is morph her own story into the bodies and personal dances of her multi-ethnic, multi-"type" cast of six. What you come away with is like a walk through Metreon: an exhausting amount of input, not the least of which is the constant

stage at Yerba Buena, what you see is that what reads better across the proscenium divide is the kind of clarity that technical, ballet-trained dancers offer. Here, the Contraband dancers, for all their passion, looked a little sloppy and under-rehearsed. Perhaps they were.

Yannis Adoniou, the one dancer with clean lines from ballet and a choreographer's ability to reframe technique into something unique and personal, created one of the most moving scenes of the evening, and hinted at a new direction Shelton Mann could possibly take. As the lighting, by Matthew De Gumbia, followed Adoniou around the darkened stage in individual chunks of whiteness, we seemed to be traveling through time, into some kind of heightened state of beauty, a future for Contraband that suggests departure from the rawness of the old days, into something more formalized and sublime. *Monk* was Sara Shelton Mann throwing the book at us. Now, if we're lucky, a new century, with a new Contraband, can begin. ▼

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# Never tee-hee

## 'Bubba Ho-Tep' plays the Castro Theatre

by Robert Julian

Evidently Elvis has *not* left the building. According to *Bubba Ho-Tep*, he just traded places with a drug-addicted Elvis impersonator who then died on that Graceland toilet, leaving Elvis to impersonate himself in small nightclubs until he falls off the stage one night and breaks his hip. The fall leads Elvis to a rest home in Mud Creek, Texas, where he lives unhappily ever after until meeting an African-American patient who believes he is John F. Kennedy. How did JFK get to be black? "Man, they dyed me this color." Are you following all this?

Soon Elvis and the JFK manqué discover an evil, undead Egyptian mummy who is sucking the souls out of patients at the rest home. His arrival is heralded by giant, flying black scarabs. And when Mr. Mummy Man shows up, he sports shit-kickin' cowboy boots with a wide-brimmed cowboy hat to complement his bloody red skull. Needless to say, The King and JFK have to take this guy out.

This is the lunatic premise of a short story by Joe R. Lansdale, adapted for the screen and directed by Don Coscarelli. As Elvis, Bruce Campbell delivers a nicely understated impersonation that works effectively. And the respected Ossie Davis assays the JFK role as if he were playing Othello — probably the right dramatic

choice, given the silliness of the set-up. But *Bubba Ho-Tep* falls flat as a pancake because Coscarelli's script just doesn't deliver the goods. It simply isn't funny, despite the best efforts of the cast, including a sassy nurse portrayed with gusto by Ella Joyce.

There are a few nice moments, like the mysterious graffiti that shows up written in hieroglyphics on the rest room stalls, suggesting that, for a good time, you should call Cleopatra. If *Bubba Ho-Tep* were a 15-minute skit on MAD TV, it just might work. But in this feature-length film, writer/director

Don Coscarelli doesn't provide enough amusing material to sustain the joke. Goofball ideas like this can result in great films — films like the brilliant black comedy *Freeway*, where Reese Witherspoon stars in an update of "Little Red Riding Hood." But turning an idea like *Bubba Ho-Tep* into a great comedy requires a great deal more invention, and much better pacing than Coscarelli can produce. ▼

**Bubba Ho-Tep opens Oct. 10 at the Castro Theatre.**



Bruce Campbell as Elvis with his boys in Don Coscarelli's *Bubba Ho-Tep*

# Turning ten South of Market

## Yerba Buena Center for the Arts celebrates first decade

by Michael McDonagh

Putting a new musical piece together is like building a house with plans in hand, and revisions in mind. That certainly seemed to be the case when your reporter attended an evening rehearsal of Bay Area composer Miya Masaoka's choral work, *While I Was Walking, I Heard a Sound...* at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) Forum. The plan in hand is a commissioned score for 100 singers and eight soloists, which will last 20-30 minutes, with the adjustments made on the spot.

"Can we do that one more time? It doesn't sound like a musical event yet," conductor Robert Geary remarks at one point,

which gets a big laugh. The 60 or so assembled vocalists are from his Volti, formerly the San Francisco Chamber Singers, and the San Francisco Choral Society. Geary is precise, intense, and generous, and he occasionally stops and sings bits of the music in a firm yet mellifluous baritone. His chorus, dressed in street clothes and seated on chairs ramped stadium-style, are attentive and utterly professional. The Forum is a big, airy, squarish room with quite good acoustics, though an especially loud choral passage comes out sounding painfully metallic.

Masaoka's piece may sound warmer when it moves to the handsome 755-seat YBCA Theater, which accommodates all kinds of acts and configurations. The world premiere of *While I Was Walking...* headlines *Command Performance*, part of YBCA's 10-year anniversary programs (see box). It strikes your fly-on-the-wall reporter as apt that he first saw Masaoka at the YBCA Forum, where she played the koto, an ancient fretted instrument used in Japanese court music, as part of the band in Pulitzer Prize-winner Henry Brant's multiculti, transepoch (it even had Elizabethan instruments) *Common Interests*.

"I found him to be very refreshing in demeanor," Masaoka says of Brant, and notes that her work, like his, will have its soloists "specialized," meaning situated in different parts of the house. This should add to its impact, which she imagines as reflective of how we perceive sound and space when we're walking, with perhaps



Composer Miya Masaoka

the only constant being the chorus, which stays put on stage.

The Watis Artist-In-Residence composer says her piece goes in and out of tonality. The sound textures we hear vary from spare, quiet, sometimes almost inaudible, to jam-packed ones which resemble some of Ligeti's a cappella music used in 2001. Masaoka, who is usually seated in a chair quite far behind Geary, looks pleased with his dedication, and the results he's getting from his singers, while a rehearsal pianist plays the part assigned to the absent Piedmont Boys and Girls Choir.

**Joan's koan**

Cellist Joan Jeanrenaud, who

was a Watis artist in 2000-01, says she's had a long and happy experience at YBCA. "Here I can do whatever I want. I had a great developing period as a Watis artist." Jeanrenaud has also been doing improvised pieces with Masaoka and Larry Ochs of Rova Saxophone Quartet. A "somewhat improvised" excerpt called "Waiting" from her 50-minute *In Between* will be on the program; it will run between five and 10 minutes. The work, which she's been at for several years, will have her playing live with a looped cello part, which she'll respond to. This should make for a fresh, far-from-set-in-stone sound, like some of the stuff she performed last fall at SomArts.

The cello is also doing a preview performance of New York-based and now Mills College resident composer Annie Gosfield's untitled work for cello and manipulated heavy-machinery sounds. Jeanrenaud says she'll play over a CD of these, and is amused that "Annie calls it Joan's piece, and I call it Annie's piece." Whatever either musician decides to title it, it remains the fruit of a collaborative process which goes back several years. Masaoka's piece is a much bigger team effort — a poetry slam and a monologue are in the show, too — and it's bound to be a happy one, in these often fractious, ego-driven times. ▼

See box below for *Command Performance* information.

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## YBCA 10-year anniversary programs

Some highlights follow from *Turning Ten: An Anniversary CenterFest*, a multidisciplinary arts festival and series of commemorative events at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission Street, San Francisco.

**Command Performance:** Brian Freeman, Joan Jeanrenaud, LINES Ballet, Youth Speaks, Miya Masaoka's "While I Was Walking, I Heard a Sound," emceed by Will Power. Oct. 10-11, 8 p.m., YBCA Theater, 700 Howard St. Tickets (\$25), call (415) 978-ARTS or go to YerbaBuenaArts.org.

**Ten by Twenty:** notable artists from YBCA's first 10 years, including Carrie Mae Weems, Barry McGee, Nayland Blake, Lucy Pullen, Manuel Ocampo, Chris Oliveria, more, and 10 newly commissioned works by artists never before exhibited in YBCA Galleries. *Four in a Row*, series of performance-based works celebrating experimentation, artists include Guillermo Gómez-Peña, Matmos, Claudia Tennyson and filmmaker Bill Daniel, more. YBCA Galleries, Oct. 18-Jan. 4. Info: phone and site above.

**Ten Perfect Moments:** A *Decade of Film*, programming by Film/Video Curator Joel Shepard, including *Bijou* by Wakefield Poole, *Imitation by Christ* by Andy Warhol (both 12/5), *Black Sunday* by Mario Bava, *Inferno* by Dario Argento (both 10/31). *Iggy Pop: Live at Avenue B* by Serge Bergli, rarely-screened 1999 concert film, Oct. 10, 7 & 9 p.m. YBCA Screening Room, series runs Oct. 24-Dec. 19.

**Thursday Night Live!** 10 multidisciplinary events including music, performance art, film, lit. Oct. 23-Dec. 18, YBCA Galleries, Screening Room.

**The Artists Ball 5: Curve**, gala dinner, includes performances, aerial dancers, dancing, artist auction. Oct. 25, YBCA Galleries, Forum. Info: phone and site above. ▼



## BOOKS

# Edmund White reinvents himself

'Fanny' dances through history

by Kevin Davis

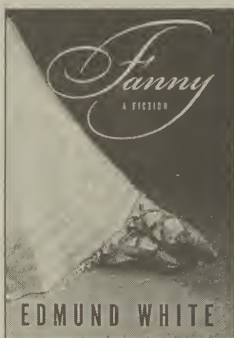
Fanny: A Fiction by Edmund White; Ecco Press, \$24.95

Though this historical fiction has already been labeled a complete departure for author Edmund White, *Fanny: A Fiction* affirms sexual union as the great redeemer and true deliverance of democracy. Fertile with common White themes of romantic idealism and infatuation with indifferent youth, White's Nabokovian voice communicates informed historical insight and scrupulous honesty in a love letter to early America.

White's invented recreation of Frances Trollope's unfinished mid-19th-century manuscript, complete with editor's notes, charts the adventures and misfortunes of her former chum: abolitionist, radical journalist and so-called Apostle of Free Love Frances Wright, a dogmatic orator 30 years Trollope's junior.

Wright is "blind to the cares of those she seeks to help," writes White as Trollope. "Fanny wanted to hand her principles down to workers without consulting them."

Trollope is revealed as the story's true heroine, who believes that strong feelings of love guide the true revolutionary. "I had a new sense of the patient, undramatic kindness of Negroes," says



nonsense, pleasure-shunning Cincinnati (White's hometown until age seven), finding the population too churlish to appreciate her plucky spirit. "We'll put the sin back in Cincinnati," she says, constructing her folly, an ultimately failed combination museum and nightclub.

## Homeward bound

After his decade-long Francophile expatriation, generating a charming Paris walking guide; the meticulous, definitive Genet biography; and the memoir of a relationship so cherished, his partner's infirmity and death so painful, that he shunned his accustomed first-person narrative; White here states emphatically, I am home.

His Trollope casts a cynical eye

all," says Wright's disappointed voyeur. "He really is a bride, and this is the last-minute flurry of seamstresses fitting him into his gown," *Beautiful Room* describes one subway T-room Adonis. "The boy's ecstasy sets off his bridal attendants."

"I had the soul of an artist, always goading myself on to ever greater frankness, more extravagant and penetrating self-disclosure," Trollope confides. She reveals herself as an endearingly dotty, occasionally unreliable narrator. She's convinced of family friend Hervieu's devotion, despite perpetually catching him embracing her fey, delicate son, Henry.

Fanny's intimidating, visceral, apocalyptic conclusion recalls James Merrill's ouija board-inspired epic poem, *The Changing Light at Sandover* (1982), examining romantic anguish through dictation with the spirit world. Perhaps it signals White's trepidation of his painstakingly informed memoirs' subjects returning to haunt him.

Edmund White's worshippers confidently expect that 30 years hence, he'll persist in voluptuously recording seductions of dirty, dewy, spring-loaded trade wherever he encounters them. Yet Fanny expresses his Gnostic, cooperative insurance against future marginalization. Who today reads Anthony Trollope's 41 travel essays and novels, including *Domestic Manners of the Americans* (1832)? Biographical impulse demonstrates a thirst to commune with literary precursors.

"I could only describe, as a woman must, the follies and foibles of an age and place," Trollope humbly writes. White's agile, intense discernment vindicates this lyrically, lucidly loquacious lady libertine of English letters. ▼

**Frances Trollope believes that strong feelings of love guide the true revolutionary.**

Trollope. "I wanted to defend it, participate in it, know it."

White depicts Trollope's sexual intimacy as the great emancipator. "The reawakened body's bliss, the sweet, vulnerable validation of a man's attentions," she says, surrendering to the ex-slave Cudjoe. "He explored me almost as if he were holding aloft a torch, and I stood beside him as amazed as he by what we were finding. ... Cudjoe sensitized me to the allure of black men."

Trollope and her debt-plagued, hypochondriac hubby flee the rent-collecting bailiff and join Wright at General Lafayette's French chateau. Lafayette introduces Wright to Thomas Jefferson, in order to bend his ear on the slavery question. She adopts the ex-President's impractical "gradual emancipation" model.

Wright deceives Trollope into visiting her "colony" near Memphis, where slaves presumably labor for eventual freedom. Trollope labels it "a devastation," and, disillusioned, promptly departs for Robert Owen's utopian New Harmony, Indiana, observing "factionalism and lawlessness no matter where we looked."

Trollope sinks roots in no-

on undiscerning patriotism of "bluff, gruff" tobacco-spitting men and "uneducated and witless" women in the land of youth. "For one saw young people everywhere," she writes. "They all praised their country and took umbrage at the slightest reservation. Personality is all in America."

Trollope reflects White's habitual leitmotif of the self-effacing, humble witness's inclination toward disdainful, unavailable subjects. "I wondered if she had adopted a deliberate undernourishment of our friendship," she says when Wright's apathy and discretion toward her maternal Boswell surfaces.

"I surround myself with beautiful young creatures and so immerse myself in their lives that I forget how I look," says Trollope. "I forgot I existed," she adds, later labeling herself invisible.

Contrast this with White imagining his cruisy college-restroom glory-hole clients in his 1988 *The Beautiful Room is Empty*. "Behind the partition they were straight, blond, athletic and indifferent."

"She always felt she was sitting for history's portrait, whereas I knew I wasn't being observed at

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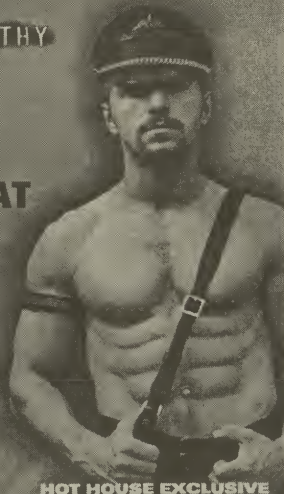


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# All series great and small

by Victoria A. Brownworth

In the midst of the harrowing California election, which co-opted a tremendous amount of tube time this week, there were still other TV moments to be sickened by: Rush Limbaugh playing Strom Thurmond (or Arnold, depending on one's perspective) on ESPN, and the debut of the terrible new gay sitcom on ABC, *It's All Relative*.

Hard to believe Rush Limbaugh could actually trump his own legendary insensitivity, yet that's what forced his resignation from ESPN last Friday. The \$30 million deal Philadelphia Eagles

quarterback Donovan McNabb signed last year was roundly criticized, but many felt the player was worth it. When he's good he's very, very good. The Eagles are seeking a Super Bowl win. McNabb has brought them the closest they've been since winning in 1982. McNabb's also a nice guy, which one doesn't see much in the NFL (even *Sports Illustrated* and ESPN have suggested the NFL has become a playground for thugs).

Limbaugh claimed McNabb is overrated and the only reason he is being promoted as the star quarterback of the NFL is because the League wants to sponsor a black quarterback. The statements (which prove Limbaugh knows as

little about football as he does about sensitivity) would have been laughable had they not been so overtly racist. Maybe Limbaugh was on those illegal painkillers he's alleged to have been taking.

Equally disgraceful, however, is that ESPN (owned, like ABC, by Disney) didn't respond: didn't fire Rush, didn't demand he apologize to McNabb, didn't even state that Rush's comments were not those of the cable network.

We're all for the First Amendment, and certainly Rush has never been silenced in his myriad media venues.

But there's a difference between supporting free speech that is hate speech and paying handsomely for it. ESPN deserves a good thrashing, and so does Rush.

ABC also deserves a thrashing for *It's All Relative*, the latest in the gay TV craze this season. It's dreadful. Never fear about those pesky gay stereotypes in *Queer Eye* that everyone's so hot under the mock turtle over. No, the gay male couple raising a straight daughter who goes to Harvard and meets a hunky working-class Boston bartender who's Republican (a new demographic, since Boston is notoriously Democratic) is too tedious. Flaming would be a welcome respite. The only bright spot in this painfully unfunny show is Harriet Sansom Harris, a fabulous comic genius who was in the gay play *Jeffrey* off-Broadway. But since she gets very few good lines, we rarely see the comedic delivery she is known for. Even a Fab Five makeover couldn't save this show.

Speaking of the Fab Five, what's with the blatant contempt for them being shown by tres gay designer Isaac Mizrahi? He's dissing them everywhere he goes. The other night he was on Leno dissing them — yet he was wearing leather with flip-flops! He complained that the Fab Five were too stereotypically gay. Omgod! Has he flitted in front of the mirror lately?

From whence does this rivalry spring? Certainly it's not jealousy.

Mizrahi's new line of clothes for Target is so popular the stores can't keep them in stock, and his gayer-than-gay commercials for Target have become a fixture of this season's queering of the tube. Let the Fab Five have their day in the sun, Miz Mizrahi.

## Season to taste

To be fair to the dreary new season, there are some good new programs: the stunning *Carnivale* on HBO Sundays, followed by the fabulous political mockumentary *K Street*. We also tout other Sunday offerings: CBS has a surefire hit with *Cold Case*, and NBC has cutiepie Rob Lowe (try not to think about his stumping for Arnold) in the captivating *The Lyon's Den*. *Hope & Faith* (ABC Fridays) is the only good new sitcom (by which we mean funny).

But the best shows this season are old ones with a new finish. *The West Wing* has come back to life from its deadly last season, putting real-life political issues front-and-center again with superb stories (John Goodman as a Republican Machiavelli is his best role since *Barton Fink*). *ER* has never been better (with the longest-running queer character on a network show). The best new show of last season, NBC's *Boomerang*, was summarily buried in moveable time slots and frequent cancellations, but critical acclaim got it renewed. Now in a solid slot on Fridays (with Vanessa Williams added to the ensemble cast), it's fabulous, and you can find it!

James Marsters has always been a fave of ours. He's moved from the defunct *Buffy*, the *Vampire Slayer* to the re-vamped *Angel* spin-off on the WB. Fang-tastic!

Last Thursday's *ER* was one of the best episodes in the show's 10-year history. *ER* has always taken risks with socio-medical issues such as domestic violence (queer and straight), HIV/AIDS, drugs, guns and a host of other less dramatic issues that impact real Americans daily. The season opener addressed the problem HIV/AIDS patients can have getting their medications paid for by



Designer Isaac Mizrahi is dissing.

Medicaid and ADAP.

Last season ended with Drs. Carter (Noah Wyle) and Kovac (Goran Visnjic) in the Congo with Doctors Without Borders. Thursday's episode took Carter back to the Congo searching for Kovac's body after word came that he had been killed by Mai-Mai rebels.

Edgy, violent, brutally realistic, *ER* showed the horror of the Muslim/Christian civil war in the Congo, where the Red Cross and UN estimate 3,000 are killed monthly: murder, rape, hideous mutilations, pillaging, the disenfranchising of thousands. Understated yet superbly drawn, the episode captured the true terrorism of the war the world has simply ignored. This exchange between Carter and a female Red Cross worker explicated everything: Carter: "I consider myself reasonably well-informed, but before I came here I hadn't heard a thing about the Congo." RC Worker: "No one gives a damn about what happens out here." Carter: "There's no oil here."

Too true. The montage of bodies with Samuel Barber's haunting "Adagio" played softly in the background could have brought even Dick Cheney to tears.

Finally, Jews are still scarce as queers (not the actors, but the characters) on daytime TV. The only Jewish character on a soap, Nora Buchanan (Emmy nominee Hillary B. Smith) on ABC's *One Life to Live*, was presented with a series of scenes to explain Rosh Hashanah to her young son Matthew last week. From their return from synagogue to their lighting of the *yahrzeit* candles to the explanation of ridding one's self of one's sins and the period of reflection between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, it was deeply moving. And in these disturbingly anti-Semitic times, provocative.

*L'shanah tovah! Stay tuned. ▼*

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## DISCS

# Another year, another depression

## Yen Tan's 'Happy Birthday' out on DVD

by Brandon Judell

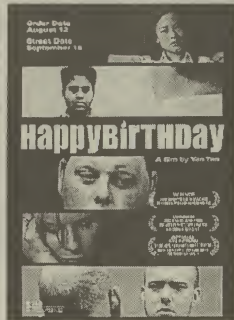
Watching the trailer of Yen Tan's *Happy Birthday* is as much incentive to viewing the film as seeing a Carrot Top commercial is incentive to spending a night with the comic. It just doesn't come off as a happy prospect.

Just take the trailer's come-on: "Two days in the lives of five born on June 12." We are then greeted by a parade of very unhappy faces shot in stark black-and-white, looking very depressed. Now these aren't your everyday Hollywood in-shape, beautiful faces, for the most part. These are folks of various ethnicities and varied weights, none of whom are smiling. In fact, these characters seem like they'd have a better time watching you than vice versa.

What's surprising is that when you finally force yourself to watch *Happy Birthday*, you do eventually get involved, and you do start caring about each and every one of these despondent souls. Well, almost.

There's the porn star Dick Throb and his Pakistani lover, Javed, who is facing deportation. Disowned by his family, Javed fears imprisonment and possibly death if he's sent home. Throb is so upset at this prospect, he has trouble showing joy while he gets rear-ended in a feature he's making. Cut!

Kelly, meanwhile, was just dumped by her girlfriend, and is now looking forward to a college reunion with an old female pal. Little does she suspect the gal's



gone very Christian.

Then there's Tracy, a semi-closeted Taiwanese lesbian living in the States, who gets a visit from her very traditional mom. Ma, while cleaning up, finds some very incriminating materials under her daughter's bed.

As for Ron, he's an ex-gay minister out to convert homos into straights; that's when he's not watching Dick Throb videos such as *Splash & Shoot*.

Finally, we meet Jim, an overweight diet-pill telemarketer, who just wants to go to a disco and dance his butt off with the boys. Instead, he winds up attending obese person's therapy groups when he's not stuffing his face.

### Angst leads

Cutting from one angst-filled moment to another, Malaysian-born Tan has created an honest exploration of what it is to be gay and have more on your mind than creatine, Ellen's talk show, and

*Queer Eye on the Straight Butt*.

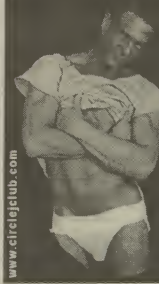
Consequently, the film has been greeted with some acclaim. Not only has *Happy Birthday* played at film festivals worldwide, it won the 2002 Grand Jury Prize at the Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival. Even better, according to Tan on the DVD's director's commentary, gay couples have come up to him after screenings and said how realistic Dick Throb and Javed are in bed, or, for an exact quote: "It's very realistic the lovers returning the blowjob thing."

Beautifully shot by Jack Burroughs with a finely attuned score by Steve Whitehouse and wise editing by Jay Wesson, it's Tan's simple screenplay with his unobtrusive direction that shows the most promise for future success. He's elicited quite fine performances from an unknown cast, especially from first-time actor Benjamin Patrick as Jim. Though you might recognize him from his sound-mixing, if you believe the Internet Movie Data Base. He's listed there as enhancing such features as *Shriek if You Know What I Did Last Friday the Thirteenth*.

Returning to Tan, he noted in an interview on gayreading.com that he thinks "there are a lot of good gay films out there, but a lot of the ones I see are very hollow. I don't mind movies that feature cute young white boys, but I want to be challenged and engaged by the story. Unfortunately, most films that have cute young white boys are just for the sake of eye-candy entertainment." Tan has come up with the cure: mind-bonbons. ▽

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## Out There

◀ page 30

will be reading from his new short-story collection, *The Burning Bush*, which explores the complexities of living and loving in America as a queer Latino. This will be his farewell reading in SF, where he now completes his tenure as program manager at Galeria de la Raza in the Mission District. LA-based poet Ravva reads new prose poems that address his South Indian origins. Tickets are \$6. Info at (415) 626-5416 or newlangtonarts.org.

Last week's *New Yorker* eagerly revisited a literary scandal from Victorian England: "Though happy in his marriage, [author Edmund] Gosse also had a long, close relationship with a sculptor, a man with the splendid name of Hamo Thornycroft. When Lytton Strachey was asked about Gosse's sexuality, he said that Gosse was 'Hamossexual!'"

Assuming the Position author Rick Whitaker considers some slightly less obscure gay writers in his new book *The First Time I Met Frank O'Hara* (Four Walls Eight Windows). A sort of personalized amble through gay literature, Whitaker's book covers many if not most of the bases from Oscar Wilde through David Wojnarowicz, somewhat bizarrely polishing things off with a consideration of fab anthropologist Tobias Schneebaum.

From the evidence, Whitaker is



Whitaker ambles through gay lit.

a reader with catholic tastes, even if his scholarship seems a bit scattershot. Walt Whitman is discussed without any reference to or exegesis of his *Leaves of Grass*; Herman Melville is appreciated solely through his disowned early novel *Redburn: His First Voyage*, *Being the Sailor-boy Confessions and Reminiscences of the Son-of-a-Gentleman, in the Merchant Service*, as if Herman had never gone on to write a book called *Moby-Dick*, and as if there were no homoerotics to be found therein. Still, the young author does alight on the work of some neglected gay greats, including Ronald Firbank, Hart Crane and James Purdy, and illuminate them. The book's title isn't meant to be a memoir; it's a line from *I Remember* by poet Joe Brainard, who was an intimate of O'Hara's. ▽

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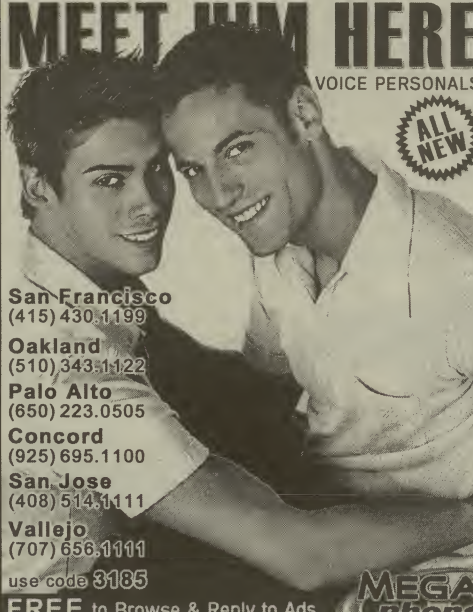
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by Mister Marcus

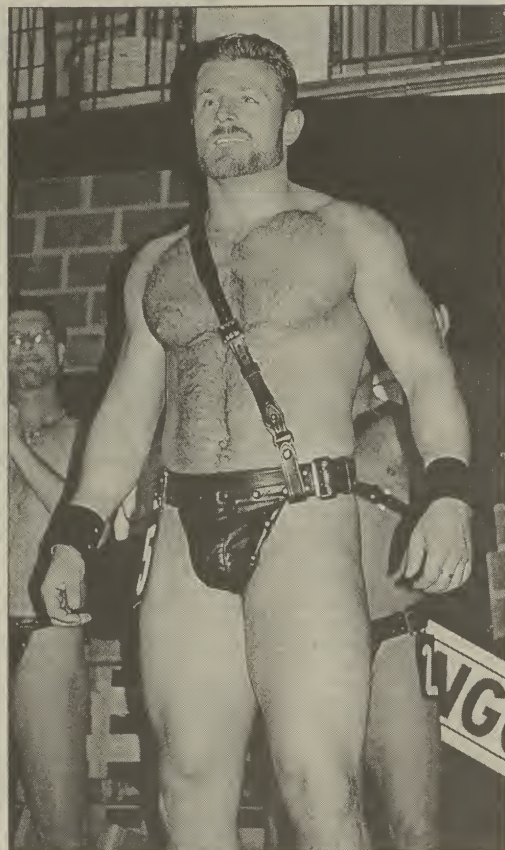
As we head into the fall season, the number of 2004 contestants for MAL, ABW, IMs.L, IML, and Leather Sir/boy is burgeoning almost weekly. Last weekend alone, Brian Kent was named Mr. Eagle NY Leather, and he advances to compete at IML next May. In Asbury Park, New Jersey, Storm (no last name) and Jerel Cooper won the Mr. and Ms. New Jersey Leather competition.

In Halifax, Canada, Randall Perry from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, won over 11 other contestants in the Mr. Atlantic Canada Leather contest, where the town has been without electricity since Hurricane Juan wreaked havoc on the area. The lights came on in time for the contest, however. The 1st runner-up was Wayne Toole from Moncton and the 2nd runner-up was Rejean LeClerc both from Moncton, New Brunswick. Yes, leather is alive and well even in the most remote areas of Canada and aren't you glad it is??

This coming weekend (October 9-12), all the regional winners in the International Leather Sir/boy saga will vie for the titles being vacated by Dale Breunig and Jose Gutierrez at the Suncoast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida. It's no wonder the 12th Street stage at the Folsom Street Fair last week was groaning when most of the current leather title holders were introduced by IML John Pandal and Ms. World Leather Goddess Lakshmi.

And there's more on the way! In October alone, there's the Mr. Pistons Leather contest in Long Beach, California; Ms. San Diego Leather, Mr. Palm Springs, California, Mr. Florida Leather, Mr. and Ms. New Mexico Leather and several more that have not yet sent me the details.

These "feeder" contests send contestants to city, state and regional competitions. And what a journey it is for new leather titleholders! Which event should I attend? The judges for IML, IMs.L, ABW, Ms. World Leather and International Leather-Sir/boy for next year have yet to be named. The ABW weekend in Washington, D.C. in April is a "must" for IML contenders. It is the place to be and be



Mr. SF Leather 2004 Julian Marshburn, shown here during the physique competition in the contest where he won the Mr. SF Leather 2004 title, makes his first official out-of-town appearance at the Int'l. Leather Sir/boy competition in St. Petersburg, Florida this weekend.

seen and besides, ABW is always fun and the best time to be in the nation's capital.

Producers are slow to publicize their winners and some are even slower in dispensing travel funds.



## Devil in the details

At a recent IML contest, as a judge, I asked contestants how they were treated/handled by their producers/sponsors.

You would have been surprised at some of the horror stories this question elicited. The worst offenders were the bar titles. I know of two right now who have

had nothing but *agida*. It's Italian and means "aggravation with nausea" (like when you attend a funeral and the corpse is wearing the same dress you've got on — thanks Tom Ammiano).

Contestants had to have car washes, cookie sales and other fundraisers just to get to Chicago. Now I ask you, is that any way to promote your contestant — and your business?

This is not true of all bar contests. There's finger-pointing all around but ambition, dedication, ego and perseverance prevails and somehow, just somehow, the contest winners make it to the stage of whatever competition they are

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, October 9

"It's A Boy's World" is the object of discussion at a Stop AIDS presentation tonight at 1900 (2126-15th St.), with boys, mentors and other "Involved" people.

### Weekend, October 9-12

Annual International Leather Sir and boy competition at the Suncoast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida. Some 11 regions will compete for the right to succeed Dale Breunig and Jose Gutierrez on Saturday night.

Queer Biker Invasion of Death Valley in the Mojave Desert of California. Motels in Bishop or Mammoth Lakes ideal for meeting up and a visit to Zabriskie Point.

### Saturday, October 11

That cute Brian Kurtela steps aside for his successor to the Mr. Central California Leather title at the North Tower Circle in Fresno tonight. Brian was among the top 20 at IML last May.

Avatar Club in Los Angeles installs their new officers at The Big Speakeasy in Long Beach with cocktails and dinner reception at 1930. For info,

email to [avatarclub@aol.com](mailto:avatarclub@aol.com) or phone (323) 726-8838.

### Sunday, October 12

Hey, it's Columbus Day and the Phoenix Uniform Club hosts the beer/soda bust at the Eagle from 1500-1800, with a raffle of uniform-related items and a uniform contest. \$7 donation and that includes grub!

### Wednesday, October 15

Show your skivvies a la tent pole at Underwear Buddies tonight, 933 Harrison. For details, 415-777-HEAD.

### Weekend, October 17-19

Mr. and Ms. Gay San Francisco contest is Saturday night at the Swedish-American Hall, when Lance and Manley step aside.

It's former Dyke Daddy Vick Germany's birthday party at the Eagle from Noon to 1600.

Revival of the Mr./Ms. New Mexico Leather contest in Albuquerque;

Richie Johnson vacates the Mr. Oklahoma Leather title tonight in Tulsa.



## PORN

# Greasepit follies

by John F. Karr

Here's the first movie from a brand new company. It starts off in innovation, relaxes to formula, but delivers the goods in three scenes outa four. Not bad.

The company is Massive Studio. They go for big guys. Adult, hairy ones. Toss in butch themes, too. The first movie is *Hard Mechanics*. It poses some reliable porn stars as grease monkeys, but ups the reality quotient by shooting in a real garage. Massive's second movie, which I haven't yet seen, is *Trucker*. No doubt that one's got some big rigs, human as well as vehicular.

I guess the most newsworthy innovation of *Hard Mechanics* is the appearance of Lane Fuller — although you can't appreciate it until he takes off his clothes for the last scene. Fuller's body was completely shaved for his several Falcon movies. Massive allows him his natural, fine chest hair, with an inviting trail leading down the center of his abdomen. He's all the more appealing for the character it provides.

A more immediately appreciable innovation is the creative camera technique that greets us at the top of the movie. To express Fuller's instant infatuation with garage owner Chris Steele, the camera records Steele's approach to the boy in slo-mo. And when the boy is led into the garage's backroom, his reaction to the appraising cruise of the mechanics and the noisy industrial swirl of their activity is conveyed in a heady montage. These are little touches, and not exactly new —

you just don't see this kind of thing in porn too often. It led me to think this new company was going to offer some fresh visions of sexuality, too. I was disappointed in that, although what is offered, while formulaic, is certainly effective, and presented in high-resolution, right-in-the-theatricality (by Ed Wood, edited by Fay Dubois).

The director, writer and producer is John Bruno. His script is based in porn clichés: Penniless Fuller is going to have to work off the cost of repairs to his truck, but since he has neither administrative nor automotive skills, we know the cash-strapped boy's gonna be clothes-stripped soon enough. But Bruno can turn



(Left to right) Josh Hammer, Lane Fuller, Chris Steele in *Hard Mechanics*

cliché around with a (purposeful?) touch of wit. We naturally think it's butch of Lane to be driving a truck, but listen to his reaction when he can't get it back: all the more tasty. "C'mon," he whines. "This is LA. I gotta have my truck to get to the gym and go to auditions!"

## Boner ex machina

Another droll moment comes as we head into the finale.

"Oh, there you are," says Fuller, staring upwards, wide-eyed. Coming down from the heights astride the hydraulic lift is a completely nude and positively hard Chris Steele.

Don't ask how he got up

there in that condition; this is a perfect moment for Suspension of Disbelief. That, however, takes some effort, for, as Steele's boner comes to rest directly in front of Fuller's mouth, Steele says, "I'm thinking there's only one way I'm going to get my money's worth outa you."

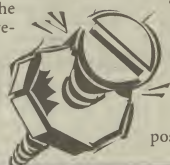
"What's that?" Fuller asks, begging the question.

"Whatya think?" replies Steele, silencing the boy with his double-size mouthful of manmeat.

Then there's the hapless moment when Paul Carrigan finds an unlikely dildo stuck between the tires on a wall rack. "What the heck is this?" he queries, not letting on if he's playing dumb or just dumb. Trent Cougar exclaims,

"That's huge!" before lamely adding, "I've never seen one of those before." Well, then, how did he know it was huge? Then we get that old saw: Jack Radcliffe says only a Real Man could take it up his ass. Carrigan takes offense. "You saying I'm not a real man?" And up his ass it goes.

My allotted space is just about used up, and I've hardly mentioned the movie's sex scenes. That's because, if not remarkable, they're just fine. They follow the Falcon mold: tightly-trimmed time lengths (20 minutes each), rapid succession of positions, blazing white lighting, and appropriately propulsive (and just slightly sinister) musical accompaniment (by Angell). The first presents the yummy, energetic pairing of fuckbunny Carlo Cox with tight-bodied Jordan West: what a steamy little hot tart this one is. The second is a somewhat inconclusive threeway for Jack (The Bear's Ideal) Radcliffe, realistically blue-collar Carrigan, and reliably nasty Trent Cougar. It's the one with the dildo; the guys are good performers, but the chemistry's just not there. Then, groovy younger dudes: svelte Josh Hammer and strapping Cameron Sage. And the finale, with massively muscular Steele slamming it to a spit-smeared Fuller in a suspended tire-sling. These guys deserve their last-on-the-bill placement. Altogether, a hearty introduction to Massive Studio; I appreciate their nonchalant way with the plot, and their generally urgent way with the sex. [www.massivestudio.com](http://www.massivestudio.com) ▼



## Karnal Knowledge

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

vyng for. Without these contestants, male and female, there would be no contests.

There's also the situation of shoddy tally masters. Recent competitions have produced consternation, disappointment, giving up the sash and embarrassed producers who discovered (after the sashes, medals, photos and announcements have gone out), that there were errors in the scoring and the announced winner is not the winner after all. Some contests are "for profit" and some are benefits. Depends on the producers and how much local community support the producers can elicit. Nevertheless, it is all there for you to savor, attend, support and otherwise be

happy about. All these factors are a part of the sash-rash game and often, prohibit extremely eligible, competent leather men and women from entering any competition. With all its flaws, good points, bad points, it's reasonable to assume the game will continue and names and titles will go down in history for all time and no doubt end up on of the lists maintained by the Leather Archives and Museum for future generations to learn about. But like everything else, if it's not your bag, it's not your bag. It's here to stay and it doesn't look like it will end in the foreseeable future.

## Mama at Daddy's

Good luck to all the International Leather Sir and boy contestants this weekend. All is readiness at the Sun Coast Resort in St. Pe-

tersburg. Judges are in place, den daddies, play parties, a show with hopefully imaginative fantasies, speeches and physiques. Frank Nowicki will again be the master of ceremonies and Tom Kiple's staff at the Suncoast is there to cater to your (well, almost) every whim. You can read the results with photos right here next week. In the meantime, for up-to-the-minute leather coverage from all parts of the world, regularly click on [www.L LeatherPage.com](http://www.L LeatherPage.com).

And before I forget, Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, the mother of many of you, will pin her 500th family member at Daddy's Bar in San Francisco on Sunday, October 26th with a \$7 beer/soda bust and entertainment from 1600 to 2000. The name of the 500th recipient will be revealed at that time. See you there! ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Mark Mardon

### Those ... artists!

As ArtSpan's Open Studios Weekend #2 takes place in many San Francisco neighborhoods this Saturday and Sunday—including the Castro, Duboce Triangle, Mission, Noe Valley, Glen Park, Bernal Heights, and Eureka Valley—the single largest assemblage of strictly queer artists is back. The artists calling themselves the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Artist Alliance (GLAA), who remain stubbornly male in membership, will be holding their annual Open Studio 2003 exhibit on October 11 and 12 in the heart of the Castro, at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy.

Their names have become etched in pantheon of pioneering queer artists. Among the notables on the GLAA roster is painter Robert Morgan, who's softly rendered, brightly colored scenes of glowing young men swimming and cavorting on beaches are immediately recognizable. They capture summer sun on glistening skin—mostly white skin—with an esthetic that evokes carefree days on Fire Island.

N.A. Diaman is one of our gay icons, unassuming though his art is. He devotes himself to still lifes, which might include flowers, or vegetables, or a battered old yellow pickup on a street; he's got an eye for the ordinary, in which he discovers exciting nuances, like the brilliance of the pickup's color against the grey/green backdrop of a house and tree. It's an image that invites/invokes long meditations.

Michael Schoenig's paintings, rendering the male physique in Apollonian perfection, seen infused with light. Schoenig's perfections manage to avoid being kitschy/clichéd, though they're monumental, almost sculptural. Schoenig finds the humanity and spirit in his figures, rendering them with a shining life-force on the canvas, making them alive and responsive to our gaze, god-like though they are.

David King's collage generally turns religious iconography on its head, melding pop culture imagery and classical scenes to our immense ironic satisfaction. King has become recognized for producing some of the most powerful gay imagery in the age of AIDS. His work appeals to the intellect, grabbing attention through scenes that throw you off kilter, but what his stories mean is anybody's guess.

Barry Nielsen professes to be driven by scopophilia, or love of looking, "whether at private lives or private parts." He comes with a background in architectural drawing, but in recent years has switched to figure drawing and painting, and the results are promising. His use of ultra-violet paints gives his eye-popping figures a Warholian touch, or maybe a hippie flavor.

When you peruse Nielsen's work at the GLAA show, just remember that hot ass you're looking at in ordinary light could, under black light could turn into a delicate peach on a plate. ▼

The GLAA show takes place Oct. 11 & 12, 11am-6pm, at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th St. (19th & Collingwood). Visit [www.sfglaa.com](http://www.sfglaa.com)



"Ass 2,953", ultra-violet acrylic paint on paper, by Barry Nielsen, part of the GLAA Open Studios. See "Calendare."

## Fr

### 'The Phacts of Life' @ The Center

The Harvey Milk Institute presents the SF premiere of *The Phacts of Life*, starring Julie Brown, a special four-show benefit engagement of the smash-hit LA stage spoof in the hallowed theatrical tradition of *The Real Live Brady Bunch*. Each performance features three full-length episodes of the notorious '80s/Reagan-era chick-com, re-enacted word-for-word and live on The Center's stage. *Phacts* highlights reams of barely repressed lesbian subtext, adds mind-boggling wigs, and retains the TV show's jaw-dropping storylines. Redhead pop-culture goddess Brown (*Strip Mall*, *Clueless*, *Earth Girls Are Easy*, *Just Say Julie*, *Medusa: Dare To Be Truthful*) plays wisecracking chubster Natalie Green in a cast rounded out with stage veterans Sam Pancake, Steve Sobel, Madeline Long, Nichole Johnson, Kate Flannery, Terrence Michael, and Jason Ginsberg. \$20 (\$30 w/cast party at Sat. late show). 8pm & 10pm each night, Fri & Sat, Oct. 10 & 11, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 865-5633; [www.harveymilk.org](http://www.harveymilk.org)

### 'Command Performance' @ YBCA

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts celebrates its 10th Anniversary with a spectacular multidisciplinary arts festival and three-week series of commemorative events, kicking off tonight and Oct. 11 with *Command Performance*, in which the Center's Watiss Artists-in-Residence show off their finest creations. Headlining the program is the world premiere of Miya Masaoka's "While I Was Walking, I Heard A Sound..." a choral piece commissioned by YBCA for this momentous occasion. Masaoka brings together an ensemble of nine vocalists and choirs to create a spectacular sonic experience. Plus: actor/playwright Brian Freeman; cellist Jean Renaud; LINES Ballet, and Youth Speaks. \$25 (\$18 members). 8pm. YBCA Theater, 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St). Tix/info: [www.YerbaBuenaArts.org](http://www.YerbaBuenaArts.org). Note: The 10th Anniversary Opening Night Party happens Friday, Oct. 17.

### 'Blue Window'

@ Exit — Stage Left Opening night gala: Chameleon Theatre Company presents *Blue Window*, written by New York playwright/screen writer Craig Lucas (*Prelude to a Kiss*, *Reckless*, *The Secret Lives of Dentists*, *Longtime Companion*, *Marry Me a Little*: songs by Stephen Sondheim). Seven fragile pieces of glass, people, connect to form a window through which you can see

a dinner party crack up and crack open. Produced by Carol Flanagan, directed by Donna Stone. Starring Brett Amott, Heather Barberie, Kirk Crist, Beth Kellermann, Lee Kisonas, Desirée Matthews, and Heidi Wolf. Have you ever wondered if what you see as the color blue, and what other people see as the color blue, are really two different colors? Lucas explores mix-ups and misunderstandings involving an eclectic group of contemporary urbanites. \$25 gala; \$16-\$20 gen'l admission. 8pm Fri & Sat thru Nov. 8. Exit — Stage Left, 156 Eddy St. Tix/info: 440-4913; [chameleontheatrecompany.com](http://chameleontheatrecompany.com); [virtuosus.com](http://virtuosus.com)

### Bruce Bruche's 'The Blue Dress' @ Jon Sims Center

AIRSpace Artist-in-Residence Bruce Bruche presents a workshop production of "The Blue Dress," in which Bruche opens the nursery door to early queer identity. A young fairy boy tries on his first dress, discovers the magic of lip-synching, and channels the voice of Judy Garland. Then, at age six, he and 36 other "sissy boys" become part of a government-funded study known as "The Feminine Boy Project," headed by one Dr. Richard Green. They boy's parents let it happen. How does a boy recover his trust in adults? It's the story about the love of the boy for the diva, and how science tried to separate them. \$7-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St). Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimscenter.org](http://www.jonsimscenter.org)

### Open Studio: Belcher Artists

See new drawings, paintings, photographs, sculpture, and mixed-media works. Participating artists: Carlo Abuzzese, Julie Aland, Amy Bond, Peikwen Cheng, Peter Howells, Bret Hansen, Joann Johnson-Deal, Christian Jusinski, Julie Montgomery, Michael Mullin, Ryan Patton, William Salt, Danielle Sergeant, Charles Stinson, Rebecca Szeto, Paul O'Valle, and Christopher Wiedmann. Free. 6-9pm Fri; noon-5pm Sat & Sun. Belcher Studios Gallery, 69 Belcher St. Info: 626-8349; [BelcherArtists.com](http://BelcherArtists.com)

### 'In the Street' Theater Festival

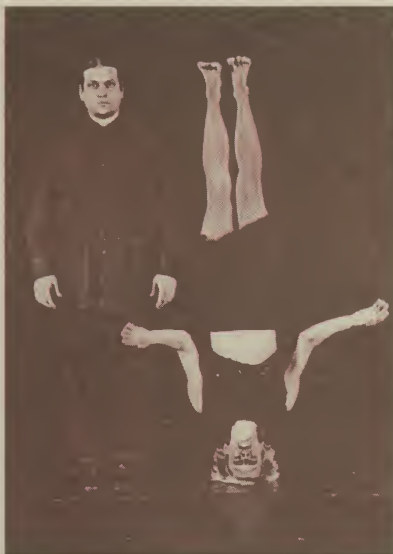
The Luggage Store presents the 9th annual "In the Street" Theater Festival, presenting a wide range of experimental and traditional performances, including the SF premiere of Wise Fool New Mexico's *H20*, which features a dazzling display of aerial performance on a 25-foot-high truss, stilt acrobatics, and larger-than-life puppets, plus Keith Hennessy's *Circo Zero* performing "Flying Bodies Not Flying Bombs," showcasing the power and grace of the human body with solo and duet performances on trapeze, aerial

tissue and vertical rope. Dance performance by Krissy Keefer and Dance Brigade. Wild and crazy live music with the 40-member, hilarious Extra Action Marching Band. Peace-making with Amy Franceschini's "Human Knot," a gathering of people getting tangled up and working to untangle. Visual arts: "Gestalt," organized by Ricardo Richey, with Apotik Komik, Rigo 03, Cuba and others; "Outside My Window," short videos by various artists; and installations by Riley McFerrin and Amy Franceschini/Michael Swaine and Adriane Colburn. Free. 7-9pm Fri. Also 11am-9pm Sat, Oct. 11. Location: 500 block of Ellis St. (btwn Leavenworth & Hyde). Info: 255-5971; [www.luggagestore.gallery.org](http://www.luggagestore.gallery.org)

## Sat

### Treasure Sale @ MCC-SF

Treasure Sale: Pre-owned treasures, silent auction, fine arts, new and almost-new designer clothing, furniture, antiques and more. All proceeds benefit Metropolitan Community Foundation's social services programs including Simply Supper, Shower Project, and elementary school educational outreach programming. 8am-4pm. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St. (btwn 18th & 19th). Info: 863-4434.



Kathleen Hermesdorf and Albert Mathias dance in "As Above, So Below" at ODC Theater.



"St. Sebastian — Contemplating The Agony of the Arrows" by Michael Schoenig, part of the GLAA Open Studios. See "Calendare."

### Shanti's 7th Annual 'Ride for Life' to the Russian River

Shanti, the nonprofit organization serving people with HIV/AIDS, breast cancer and other life-threatening illnesses, launches its 7th Annual Ride for Life, a motorcycle ride to the Russian River, this year offering two routes: one through the Marin/Sonoma countryside, the other through Napa wine country. Collect pledges from family, friends and co-workers to sponsor you as a rider, or pay a \$25 entry fee per person (\$35 at event). Both routes begin at 9:30am at Shanti at 730 Polk St. (at Ellis); check-in time 8am. Then go on to Filé's Resort in Guerneville for a Bar-B-Que picnic, raffle and games. Info/registration: 674-4764; [www.shanti-rides.org](http://www.shanti-rides.org)

### 'Come Out & Come Home' @ Pacific Center, Berkeley

Pacific Center for Human Growth, the 3rd oldest LGBT Community Center in the country, invites you to "Come Out and Come Home." Help celebrate 30 years of service to the LGBT community with a block party! Enjoy food, entertainment, vendors, and an open house. Free. 11am-5pm. 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. Info: 510-848-8283; [www.pacificcenter.org](http://www.pacificcenter.org)

### liquidFIRE's 'Wet' @ Oakland Box Theatre

liquidFIRE Productions presents "Wet," a sexy/sultry cabaret featuring erotic performances by Queer People of Color, created/directed by Veronica C. Combs. Spoken word/poetry, dance and song to taunt and tease you, make you wet, then leave you thirsty and

begging for more. With emcees Micia Mosley and Carolyn King. Featuring Michelle Bolong & Malja Garcia in their dance/martial-art duet "Pulse"; Tina Cristina Maria D'Elia as seductress Rita Hayworth belting out song & poetry; Fatemah a dancer who works with a pole; smooth poet Angelo Hanna; hip-hop MC JenRO; soulful dancer Frances Sedayao; and powerful poet Marcus Rene Van. \$10-\$20 sliding. Two shows: 7:30 & 10:30pm. The Oakland Box Theatre, 1928 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. Tix/info: 861-8208; [liquidfire@hotmail.com](http://liquidfire@hotmail.com)

### 'It's Natural Conference' @ SMAAC Youth Center, Oakland

Oakland's Black Pride Celebration 03, "Share The Experience," presents the "It's Natural Conference," a half-day event with free workshops for the BGLBTSGL community. Workshops: Say It Loud I'm Black An' I'm Proud. Marlon Riggs Achievement Award Recipients 2003 (4-5pm); Family Builder By Adoption (5-5:30pm); Women's Health with Dr. Kimberly Hicks, M.D. (5:30-6:30pm); HIV Treatment Update with Dr. Robert C. Scott, M.D. (5:30-6:30pm). Bookhouse Cafe presents "Meet The Author in Oakland," with readings and signings by authors Anna Dennis (*The Purest Of Pain*), Timm West (*Red Dirt Revival*), Regina Louise (*Someone's Someone*) and more. Free. 4-8pm. SMAAC Youth Center, 1738 Telegraph, Oakland. Info: [californiablackpride.org](http://californiablackpride.org); [bookhousecafe.com](http://bookhousecafe.com)

Open Studio: Melissa Wagner Originally from Detroit, Melissa Wagner has been in SF five years, after graduating from U of M with a double major in Art and Biology. Her background is in scientific illustration. She creates organic, three-dimensional paintings using intense color, texture, and constantly changing surfaces, often incorporating actual elements of the living world — branches, ferns, leaves and such. Wagner is active in the arts community, involved with Maitri AIDS Hospice, ArtSpan, multiple mural projects, and ArtSpan's Open Studios. 11am-6pm Oct 11 & 12. Virgin 69 Boutique/XTHREADZ Showroom, 149/151 Valencia (btwn McCoppin & Duboce). Info: [wagnerpaintings.com](http://wagnerpaintings.com); [xthreadz.com](http://xthreadz.com)

Open Studio: Mitcho Join queer artist/celebrant Mitcho for "Good Art, Politics, and Magic Potions" as he introduces his new line of artistically crafted and earthly inspired herbal tinctures and magic potions specifically created for the bodies, minds and spirits of the queer community. 11am-6pm, Oct 11 & 12. Mitcho's Studio, 192 Noe St. (at 15th St). Info: 307-3431.

Guerrilla Girls @ Modern Times Reading & slide show by the Guerrilla Girls, the anonymous women in gorilla masks who educate the public about gender bias

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In the art world and beyond. They are the authors of *Bitches, Bimbos and Ballbreakers: The Guerrilla Girls' Illustrated Guide to Female Stereotypes* (Penguin), and two other books. Free. 7pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th St). Info: 282-9246; [www.modern-times-bookstore.com](http://www.modern-times-bookstore.com)

### Morgan Guberman @ New Langton Arts

New Langton Arts presents Morgan Guberman with *Numinous Opossum*. Guberman's work encompasses solo electronic and chamber music with emphasis on free improvisation. For Langton he performs with former ROVA saxophonist Andrew Voight and Micro East Collectives Ian Davis in the trio *Numinous Opossum*. His works have been utilized by dancer and filmmakers and has received radio play throughout Europe, Japan, Australia and the US. \$8 (\$6 student/senior/member). 8pm. 1246 Folsom St. Tix/info: 626-5416; [www.newlangtonarts.org](http://www.newlangtonarts.org)

### Other Cinema @ ATA Gallery

Other Cinema presents Irish artist Cecilia Dougherty (live) screening "Gone," a double-projection piece inspired by an episode of "An American Family," the landmark '70s verite series about the Loud family. Filial tensions and gender positions become complicated when he mother's visit to Lance's Chelsea Hotel digs meets with disaster. Soundtrack features music by Kathleen Hanna, Johanna Fateman, and Sadie Benning of Le Tigre. Plus: Dougherty's Warholian "Grapefruit," in which Susie Bright plays John Lennon in a lesbian revisioning of the modern Lennon-Ono myth. \$5. 8pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia St. Info: 824-3890.

### 'Season of Horror' @ Bridge Theatre

Peaches Christ hosts "Midnight Mass: Season of Horror." Just in time for Halloween, Christ returns with flawed sidekick Marilyn to screen their favorite fright films — and to re-open the *Book of the Dead*! Tonight: *Evil Dead 2: Dead by Dawn*, directed by Sam Raimi (Spider-Man). The sole survivor of *Evil Dead*'s fateful camping trip (Bruce Campbell) returns to the remote cabin in the woods to once again battle with sadistic warriors of the spirit world. Non-stop thrills. Equal parts humor and horror. Live performances, celebrity guests, contests and more. Dress up fancy! Meet the filmmakers! Sulk the Stars! Bring your mother! Enter the "Zombie Queen Beauty Pageant." Landmark's Bridge Theatre, 3010 Geary Blvd. Tix/info: 751-3213; [www.peacheschrist.com](http://www.peacheschrist.com)

## Sun 12

### Marilyn Manson @ The Warfield

While hardly the culture shocker he was just a few scant years ago, Marilyn Manson is still one hell of a provocative entertainer, with an over-the-top stage show that makes his hard rock contemporaries look like Air Supply. Yes, it's true that the band's last two records have been tired rereads, shamelessly attempting to recapture the dark glory days of *Antichrist Superstar*. But there are still some gems to be found on the recently-released *The Golden Age of Grotesque*, such as the stompy fun of "Doll-Dagga Buzz-Buzz Zigzety-Zag." And the stage show looks to be inspired by '30s-era Berlin vaudeville — that is, if elec-



"Urban Cowboy," 2002, by Paul O'Valle, part of Belcher Artists Open Studio. See Friday.

tronic guitars existed in '30s-era Berlin. Tix \$35/\$40. 8pm. 982 Market. [www.marilynmanson.com](http://www.marilynmanson.com)

### SLDN's 'Red, White & Blue Angels' @ Treasure Island

Service members Legal Defense Network (SLDN) presents its 6th annual "Red, White & Blue Angels" fundraiser, featuring a special appearance by the SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, coinciding with the annual Blue Angels Air Show. Proceeds benefit SLDN's legal aid and advocacy work on behalf of men and women harmed by the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, under which the Pentagon fires 3-4 people every day. Retired Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Vince Patton will be joined by SLDN board member Jody Hoenninger, Esq., LL, USAF (1978-1980) to discuss the policy. Noon-3pm. Treasure Island, Casa de la Vista. Tix/info: [www.sldn.org](http://www.sldn.org); [www.sldnsf.org](http://www.sldnsf.org)

### Antiques Street Faire @ Downtown Pleasanton

Join other collectors and treasure seekers along a 1.5-mile stretch of Downtown Pleasanton, hosing hundreds of professional antiques dealers in the West's biggest antiques street fair. The dealers start setting up at 4am, usually after driving hundreds of miles from all over California and other western states. Tree lined streets shade the many sidewalk cafes, delis and coffee shops along Main Street. Free admission & parking. Located along Main St., Angela, Abby, and Old Bernal, Pleasanton (confluence of Interstates 580 & 680). Info: 925-484-2199.

## Mon 13

### 'Peace Dreams' @ Noh Space

Theatre of Yugen presents "Peace Dreams," conceived and directed by dancer/choreographer Christina Braun. She and her co-conspirators against fear, from the Butoh dance and experimental music communities, promote peace through music, the ritual of theater, and the symbolic language of dance. Featuring composer Shigeki Asakawa and artist/poet Minoru Yata and dancers Ronnie Baker, Melusina Llama'azul, Martha Matsuda, Delphine Kimi Mei, and

Bob Webb. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 2840 Mariposa St. (at Florida St). Tix/info: 621-7978; [www.theatreofyugen.org](http://www.theatreofyugen.org)

## Tue 14

### Composers Inc. @ Green Room

Composers Inc. opens its 2003-04 season by presenting seven works by seven composers from seven different states: John Fitz Rogers (South Carolina); Marjorie Merryman (Minnesota); Michael Nicolella (Washington); Richard Wernick (Pennsylvania); Bryan Johanson (Oregon); Jeffrey Prater (Iowa); and George Tsontakis (New York). \$20 (\$12 student/senior/disabled). 8pm. Green Room, Veteran's Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 512-0641; [www.composersinc.org](http://www.composersinc.org)

### 'Paradise Found' @ Mecca

Positive Resource Center's Annual Awards Gala, "Paradise Found," takes place from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at Mecca Restaurant, that elegant place of dining and music in the heart of gay paradise. "Paradise Found" welcomes you to a lush evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dancing, celebration, surprising entertainment and a silent auction. The flavors, sights and sounds of the evening are sure to excite and delight the senses. Chaired by the California Legislative LGBT Caucus: Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore Christine Kehoe; Senator Shelia James Kuehl; Assemblymember Jackie Goldberg; Assemblymember Mark Laird; and Assemblymember Mark Leno. More than 250 community activists, fundraisers, entertainers and civic leaders expected to attend. Awards for outstanding support of Positive Resource Center programs and people living with HIV/AIDS will be presented to the SF Foundation, Harry Lit, The Tom Waddell Health Center, and The State of California Department of Rehabilitation. Positive Resource Center serves some 2,500 people living with HIV/AIDS each year. Tickets to the Gala are \$100 each. Tix/info: 415-972-0872; [www.positivresource.org](http://www.positivresource.org)

## Wed 15

### Victor Krummenacher @ Make-Out Room

Record release show featuring one of the country's finest singer/songwriter/guitarists: Victor Krummenacher (Camper Van Beethoven, Monks of Doom), just out with a new solo recording, *Nocturne*, one of his finest albums in a string of hits. All its lyrics are adapted from the poem "Nocturne" by Xavier Villaurrutilla, translated by Eliot Weinberger, from *Bastard Review* 5/6 death and desire. Compared to his albums *Saint John's Mercy* and *Bittersweet*, the new one is more adventurous, but still intensely focused. Also playing: Robie Del Mar (CD release) and Danny Pearson (of AMC). \$6. 8:30pm. 3225 22nd St. Info: 647-2888; [makeoutroom.com](http://makeoutroom.com)

### 'Son of Drakula' @ NCTC

Opening night: New Conservatory Theatre Center in association with David Drake present the West Coast Premiere of *Son of Drakula*, written and performed by David Drake, the acclaimed creator/performer of *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*. In this show, Drake embarks on a hilarious search for identity in all its meanings. Born as David Drakula, he traces his slavic roots in Transylvania to the shores of the USA. 8pm Wed-Sat; 2pm Sun thru Nov. 2. 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 861-8972; [www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org)

## Thu 16

### 'Worse Than Chocolate' @ Theatre Rhinoceros

Preview: Theatre Rhinoceros presents the second play in its 26th season, *Worse Than Chocolate*, a new comedy by Jason Post, directed by Jeffrey Hartgraves. Starring Post, Hartgraves, Sina Eiden, Liz Ryan, Megan Harding, Maryssa Wanless, Leon Acord, Cara Wick, and Isaac Brantner, with special guest player Veronica Klaus. Meet Alex, Frankie, Shelly and Paul, four orphans in a storm of mismanagement and romantic underachievement. Post previously performed under the name Lisa Post, and is undergoing transition from female to male. \$15 Wed; \$20 Thu/Sun mat & eve; \$25 Fri & Sat; previews (Oct. 16 & 17) pay-what-you-can. Opens Oct 18 & 19. "Straight Night Out" (for daring straight people), Oct. 30. 8pm (3 & 7pm Sun), 2926 16th St. (Mission & So. Van Ness). Tix/info: 861-5079; [therhino.org](http://therhino.org)

### 'As Above, So Below' @ ODC Theater

Motion-Lab and ODC Theater present *As Above, So Below*, choreography by Artistic Director Kathleen Hermesdorf, sound by Music Director Albert Mathias, with light, video & visual design by Elaine Buckholtz. Three world premieres, a solo by Hermesdorf, and a commission for Company Mécanique. The works tackle alchemy/natural magic through body, music, image and light. \$18. 8pm. Thu-Sat, Oct. 16-25. ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; [www.odctheater.org](http://www.odctheater.org)

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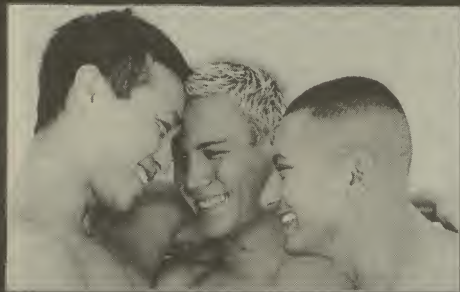
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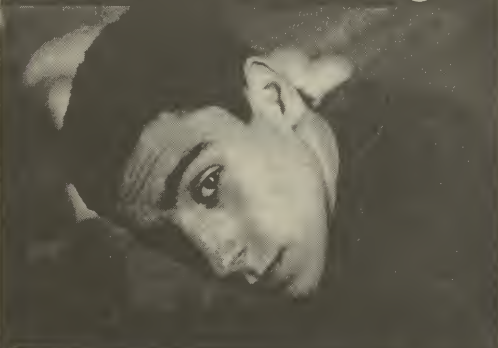




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## Sharon Lockwood

◀ Arts cover

Joan Holden, a longtime Mime Troupe playwright, has said she heard Lockwood's voice as she was adapting Barbara Ehrenreich's bestseller about her undercover adventures in the world of minimum wage. "When Joan first got the project, she really wanted me to be a part of it," Lockwood said. "The original director [Intiman Theatre artistic director Bartlett Sher] knew my work from San Francisco, so that was great, too."

The current production, which began at TheatreWorks in Mountain View before moving to Brava, has yet another Mime Troupe connection in director Dan Chumley. "There's somewhat of a heightened style to the show," Lockwood said, "but it's not really Mime Troupe style."

When Lockwood was asked to return to the role she had created, she did not jump at the chance. "At first I was a little hesitant to do it again because I thought, 'Gee, it was such a great experience.' But I'm really glad I did, because there's new stuff in it, and because of the life-affirming effect it has on people."

### Home economics

In her 2001 book *Nickel and Dime*, subtitled *On (Not) Getting by in America*, Ehrenreich chronicled her unsuccessful efforts at surviving on an array of minimum-wage jobs. In the stage adaptation, Lockwood plays Ehrenreich in a series of scenes built around her economic and personal discoveries in the different jobs.

In the play and the book, Barbara is both an observer and an increasingly desperate participant. "The book is very much in Barbara's voice, which is very humorous, and that's taken into the play," Lockwood said. "But these jobs change you. By the time she's in Minneapolis working at Wal-Mart, she's someone else. She's Barb. They've shortened her name on the nametag, and she's becoming this raving manic."

But playing Barbara is nothing like doing, say, Joan Rivers or Norma Desmond in a Mime Troupe show. "There are elements of the Barbara character that are me," Lockwood said. "In that sense, it's not character-y in that I don't do a funny voice or funny walk. It's closer to me, and that's a little more difficult in the way that a lot of actors have trouble com-



Lockwood is well-known in San Francisco for her Norma Desmond ('83)...

ing out and being themselves."

In fact, the lines between the performers and their characters, as well as the performers and the audience, are actually erased at several points. "There are places in the play where the fourth wall is not there," Lockwood said. "I even come down into the audience at one point. We call it the breakout, where we actually break out of the play."

In one segment, the cast invites the audience into a discussion of housecleaners and how much they are paid. "In Los Angeles, you could tell there were people in the audience who were very uncomfortable. It was a very well-heeled audience, and they were paying their housekeepers a lot less than

in Seattle."

But the play is not designed to be accusatory, Lockwood said. "When you're doing something like this, which is meant to have an effect on people, the best way to do it is not to preach."

What effect has the play had on Lockwood? "I think a lot of times the most right-on of us can have this sort of thing where people in these jobs are invisible," she said. "And that really doesn't happen to me much anymore." ▼

*Nickel and Dime* will run through Nov. 9 at the Brava Theatre Center. Tickets are \$14-\$32. Call 647-2822 or go to [www.brava.org](http://www.brava.org).

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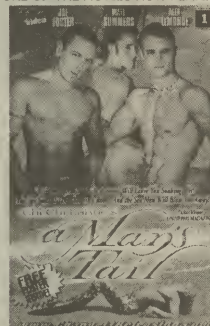
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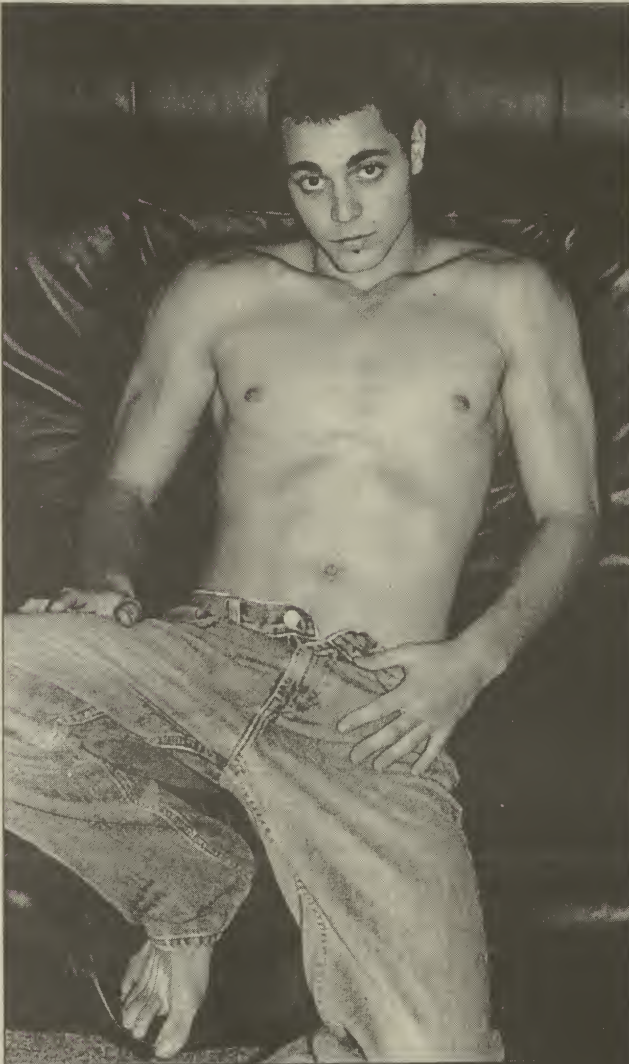
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## PARTING GLANCES

**Big Masc. Sam, & Fine Muscle Steve...** I'm your "Gardner". I think you both are so fucking sizzling Hot! It would be nice to one day take a break and hang out in the hot tub...Naked!!! Is it possible? Signed Gardner, in Hilly Oakland USA ☎ 72806

**"Missed Connections"** Rick, the cock worshipper in Alameda. I live near the lake. We got together and partied. You came and picked me up. Didn't write correct phone #. Let's do it again. ☎ 72811

**Guerneville 8/31** You with dark beard. We should have talked. I'm sorry I left. The Rainbow. ☎ 72812

**Both Of Us Were Walking...** Eastward on Market near Church, around 6pm. You looked at me when I walked into Ace Hardware and I smiled back. ☎ 72823

**Dolores St. Sep. 8 Moonlit Night** You-out for a walk. We glanced. You turned and waited for me as I got into my car. I looked back and drove off. Crazy moon. Let's talk. ☎ 72824

**TheaterRhino, Sun+Matinee, 9/14** You: BM, front row. Me: WM up steps in back. Our eyes met. We smiled & nodded "hello". You made my day. Can I see you smile again? Pls. call. ☎ 72835

**Folsom Gulch Sat 9-27 2:30 PM** You very handsome, dark hair, slim, smooth, uncut young man in left rear booth. Me older man who sucked you. Very nice. Would like to do it again. ☎ 72839

**9/20/03 Grupo Hispano** We talked about bathroom waterfall, broken cabinet and lying poorly. You said communication is a good way to know someone. I want to communicate with you. ☎ 72840

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**Looking For One Great Man!** GWM, top, ISO White or Latino bottom for dating and possible ltr. Me: 51, 6'3", 175 hairy chest. You: 35-50 height & weight proportionate, Oakland. ☎ 72807

**•Top Skis Bottom•** Solid, well hung, Silver Fox wants lovin all over- huggers + kissers with bubble butt gets ride of lifetime. ☎ 72808

**SF Bear Seeks Amorous Pig Bttm** Husky, hairy, easy going W/M 50, HIV- ISO horny bottom 25-40, HIV- who loves to make love with his mouth for hours. Tits, pits, back, buns, balls, all. Esp like Latinos, Italians. ☎ 72813

**Cute Skinny Asian Vers Guy** ISO bi/GWM, prof, clean, 35-45yo, goodlooking, ht/wt prop. Serious only for ltr. Me: prof, loving, caring, affectionate. ☎ 72814

**Santa Rosa Native** SWM, 42, 5'10", 175#, red head, ex navy, mobile home owner. Enjoys tennis, chess, talk radio, & drumming. Seeks relationship. ☎ 72815

**Dirtyoldman Needs Someone Bad!** Are you bad??? Healthy, happy G.W.Sr. masc. top ISO W. masc. submissive bottom for friendship+sex, companionship+ sex, love+sex? ☎ 72816

**Older ISO Yngr. J.O. Buddy** GWM 50's seeks younger GWM 18+ for friend, companion, jo buddy, to go places with, to talk to, spend time with, who likes affection, to cuddle, mutual jo, maybe more. ☎ 72817

**GJM 50 Near Lake Merritt,** Seeking drinking, hanging out buddy. Like films, stage, food, baseball, drinking, etc. Not a sex ad. Age, size, race, looks unimportant. Urgently need male companionship. Most friends are women so need more male perspective in my life. ☎ 72825

**Wanted Blond Musc. Educ. Male** Musc. legs a plus. Retired prof. male (White) HIV- ISO very musc. male. You won't be sorry. I assure you. ☎ 72826

**"Best Buds"** Masculine, muscular, Italian topman looking for buds to hang with. Dinner, movies, football, politics and travel. Need a vacation? Be masculine and fun. 30-50. ☎ 72836

**WLM 48, 6', 165lbs, Dark Hair** I enjoy being with mature men over 60 who like lots of affection & oral pleasure. Husky/ heavyset, bearded a plus. No gay scene, drugs but smoking, light drink ok. ☎ 72837

**Hot Top 40** 5'10", 165, bl, bl, bottom, professional, travel, townhse, seeks younger hot bottom-honest & sincere for ongoing play or more; no messes please, Upper Haight. ☎ 72841

**Squirrel Seeking Nuts** 4 the winter. 31yr old Latino 5'8", 170 good build blk hr, brn eyes. Available 4 Caucasian men, 25-35 yr old for fun intimate encounters. ☎ 72842

**Crazy For Blond!!** Brazilian, light skin, 37yrs, 5'7", 145lbs nice body dick a plus. Single, no drugs, clean hygiene. Seeking WM under 50 round butt and lovely. To be mine forever and I will be only for you. ☎ 72843

**Cute Young European** Is looking for other intelligent European or American under 40yo. with sense of humor to share great sex and life together. You won't be disappointed! ☎ 72844

**•GWM Couple Seeks Asian Guy•** GWM couple, 38/43, seeking special GAM, 30's, for romance and relationship. Enjoy books, music, movies, theatre, dancing, long walks, lazy Sundays, candlelight, cuddling, and great threeway sex! We/you: honest, versatile, HIV-. ☎ 72845

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**TS 4 Black Men East Bay** Black young men generous mature smooth pretty bottom nice littles, will give you head and let you take her pussy. Blond/White. ☎ 72820

**East Bay Bear!** 53, 6', 220lbs, hairy. Looking for regular sex buddy. Into sniffing, licking, sucking, fucking, jo, talking dirty. Hairy+. Not looking for ltr. ☎ 72828

**•Naked Role Play•** Lean masculine dominant guy 44 seeks lean guy younger or same age for fantasy play involving you being stripped naked and following orders. No pain or unsafe sex. ☎ 72829

**Hairy? Celtic?** Total oral servicing for hirsute Irish, Scots, Welshman over 35 and over 5'9". No reciprocation. I host. ☎ 72818

**Spunk Your Butt** Hot, masculine top, 38, 5'11", 175#, seeks well-built bottom with nice round ass for over-the knee spanking, role-playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 72830

**"Big Chubby Men!"** Wanted by bi versatile top bear, 43, 5'9", 225, beard, hairy, for weekday lunchtime/ daytime meetings. You are 30-70, 225+, bottom or versatile. We are both HIV-, clean. ☎ 72831

**Seeking Built Hairy Cocksucker** Who's into hairy men, nip work, dick play, and 69ing as much as me. I'm poz, muscular, very hairy, 50's, 5'11", 185, GWM. If good match, let's play often and become buddies. ☎ 72821

**Dominant, Endowed Black Gentleman,** 49, 5'9", 180lbs, balding, mustache. Seeking submissive, mature Latino gentleman with dark skin, dark hair and mustache for good times. Phone required. Serious only please. ☎ 72819

**Desires Thick Cocked Average/** Masculine guy. Heavy, intense jo, dirty talk, daytime meetings, partying buddy desired. Some oral OK. Your place, PM only. Not into toys, videos, groups, anal. Long moderate to heavy partying scenes only. ☎ 72827

**Naughty Young Euro Boy** With round tight bubble butt is looking for a group of tops (2 or more) to be used as a submissive, bottom. Limits can and must be stretched. Under 40 only. ☎ 72846

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**Stroking For Hours** Seeking masculine/ average guy for heavy, intense jo, dirty talk, cock worship. Drinking/ partying buddy desired. Some oral OK. Your place, PM only. Not into toys, videos, groups, anal. Long moderate to heavy partying scenes only. ☎ 72832

**Can Dad Train This Wild Boy?** Bottom guy, 39, single, 5'8" 155lbs HIV+ masc, gd lkg seeks to meet masc. disciplinarian, 40-60yrs. into oral/anal training, w/a, beatings, please you, serious. ☎ 72833

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**"Feet And Ass Wanted!"** I want to suck and sniff your feet while I stretch your ass with my fist and maybe some toys too. I'm Latin and very discreet. ☎ 72838

**Young Hot Euroboy For Training** Very cute boy with deep throat and tight ass wants to be trained into total submissive by a hot master under 40. I am open for any type of training. You won't be disappointed. ☎ 72847

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# BAR TALK

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# More queers in the new world

## LGBT recording artists on disc, part 2

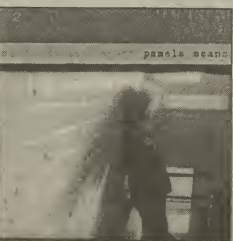
by Gregg Shapiro

On a mellow note, *Remember Who I Am* (Clever Shark) is the memorable debut disc by queer trio Girlyman. Imagine a bent Nickel Creek and you have only scratched the surface of Girlyman's lush three-part har-



monies and modern bluegrass/folk sound. A truly cooperative effort, all three members of Girlyman (Nate Borofsky, Tammy Greenstein and Doris Muramatsu) contribute to the songwriting process, and they alternate taking the lead vocals on the tunes. Standouts include a praiseworthy cover of "My Sweet Lord."

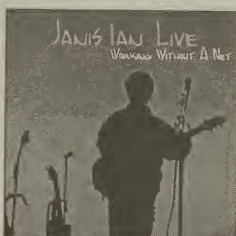
A great poet once said "make it new," and that appears to be the challenge before lesbian singer/songwriters. With so many women who came before them and so many more trying to do the same thing, making it new may be easier said than done. On her fifth album, *Birthmark* (Egase), Aerin Tedesco does her part by ornamenting her folk-pop songs with an electric guitar here and a cello there, and even a didgeridoo. "Crush" is spiced up by some Cajun percussion, and the banjo on "Cowboy" gives it, well, its pluck.



On her fourth album, *Single Bullet Theory* (Wir), queer biracial singer/songwriter Pamela Means sounds like what I imagine Rachael Sage would sound like if she stepped out from behind her electric piano and picked up a guitar. Cocked and loaded, Means fires off what is easily one of the best musical summations of the current political situation on the song "O.D." It stands for "oleaginous diplomacy: government initiatives made on behalf of oil companies." She also addresses racial and queer issues with equal directness.

The anti-folk songs on Andrea Bunch's distinguished debut album *Numinous* find a common place for acoustic instrumentation and clear and powerful vocals to be enhanced by unusual samples and synthesizer sounds. "Earthworms," for instance, fea-

tures a machine-like grinding under the surface. A babbling brook and bird calls interwoven with synthetic crunches and a beautiful piano give "Colorloc" its unique hue. A debate about art and insecurity introduces the bittersweet "Sugar." Electronic beats and flutters give "Species" its life-force.



### Off the net

Paving the way for just about every queer singer/songwriter from the last 30 years is Janis Ian. *Working Without a Net* (Rude Girl/Oh Boy) is a double-disc live set which features songs from Ian's career. From "Society's Child" to "Days Like These" and "Boots Like Emmy Lou's," the recordings (from various venues and a multitude of countries) span the years 1990-2003, and offer an impressive overview of Ian's work. Some of Ian's best-known tunes, including "At Seventeen," "Jesse" (a hit for Roberta Flack), and "Fly Too High" (co-written by Giorgio Moroder!), are also present. A new studio disc by Ian is forthcoming in early 2004.

*Calico* (MP3.com) by queer Chicago-based performer Scott Montgomery includes songs from his deservedly acclaimed *Elaine Place* and *Roscoe* album, such as "A Spank of Happy," "Drama Lives in Lincoln Park," and "blo."

Finally, a queer music column would be incomplete without a few CDs by dance artists. Kevin Aviance follows up his 1999 *Box of Chocolates* album with *Entity* (Emerge). Aviance gets dipped, flipped and licked on "Give It Up," co-written by gay DJ, songwriter and record producer Tony Moran, in which he compares himself to both a drug that will make you go crazy and to cottoncandy. His smash hit dance single "Alive," also a Moran co-composition, which features his trademark stuttered vocals, certainly deserves its lively reception. Equally surprising is the queer blues of "Seattle," which illuminates another side of the multifaceted artist.

Houston Bernard manages to be more graphic than Aviance (and that's no easy feat) on his electroclash EP *I Love Houston* (houstonbernard@yahoo.com). "Ride It Cowboy" asks the musical question, "Do you really want the dick?" and follows it up with very explicit directions. Rocking a little harder on the new wave edge, "Str8 Acting" begins with street cruising and features the chorus, "I'm a straight-acting, huge-dicked faggot/I'll f--- you in the mouth." ▼

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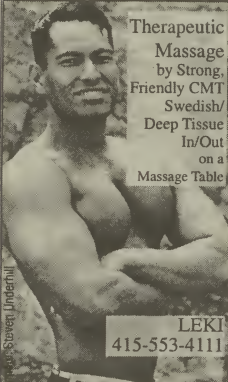
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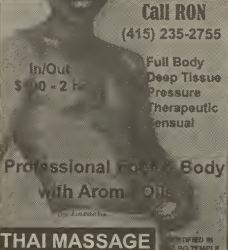
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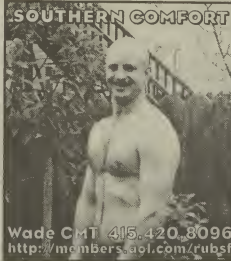
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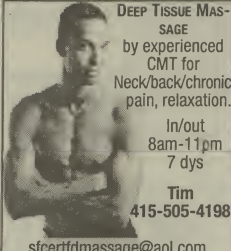
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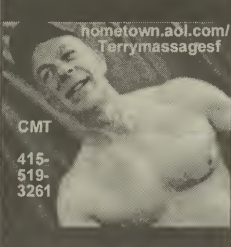
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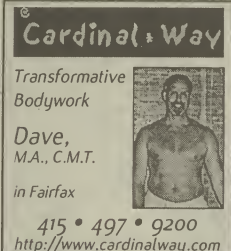
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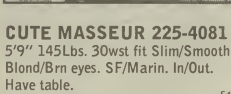
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*10x6 Uncut*

**MIREK**

(323) 632-1742


*Safe / Clean*



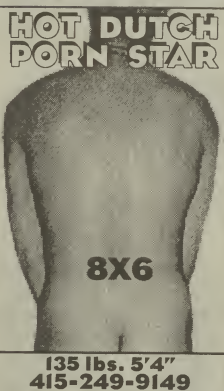
**DAMON**

25,  
UNCUT 9"  
TOP

**415  
867.6316**



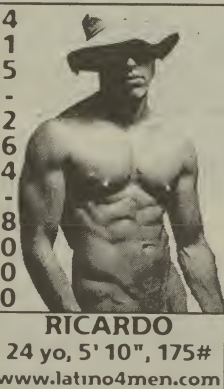
**HOT DUTCH  
PORN STAR**



**8X6**

**135 lbs. 5'4"**  
**415-249-9149**

**415-266-0000**



**RICARDO**

24 yo, 5' 10", 175#

[www.latin4men.com](http://www.latin4men.com)

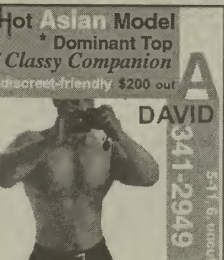
**Hot Asian Model**

\* Dominant Top  
\* Classy Companion

discreet-friendly \$200 out

**DAVID**

341-2949



Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

**ASIAN TOP**

\$80/\$100 \* JIM 269-5707

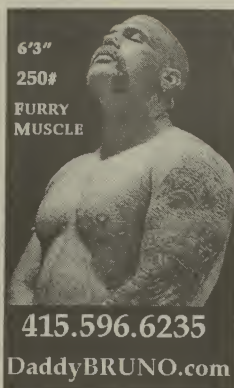
Mike, 38, 5'10", 190#, B/Blu  
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk

In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932

**COWBOY TOP**

6-180#, Rough muscled  
30yrs. page 1 888 699 2325

6'3"  
250#  
FURRY  
MUSCLE



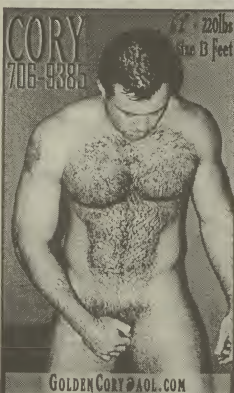
**415.596.6235**

**DaddyBRUNO.com**

**CORY**

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220lbs  
5'10"



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**FOOT HUNG FORNY**



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Got a kinky side? Like it intense or laidback?  
Take it slow with Seth. 190#, 6' 3", Topman

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**CONSTRUCTION WORKER TOP**

6-1, 177#, vgl, 9 inch cut  
Page 650-523-9133, and massage

**SEXY JEWISH**

Very Handsome, green eyes, great  
body, gorgeous butt & very well hung.

Will fulfill your fantasies! 207-6117

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Handsome Italian top hung 10x7!

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Gentle strength & arousing edge  
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6ft., ez-go'n'well-hung, big balls  
Clint\*415-540-5311\*in/out. 24hrs.

See pics-swingonmything@aol.com

**LIVE THE MYTH!**

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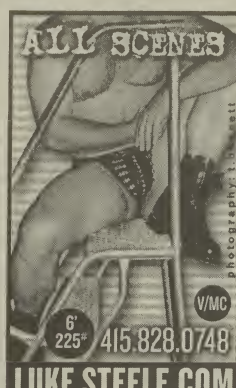
GBM 6'165# 9.5x6 415 425 3735

Hot blonde w/green eyes 135#

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225"

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**Tony Scalia**

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Performer

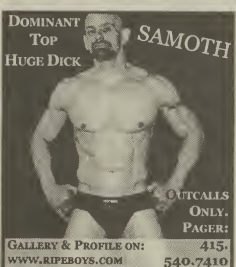


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28, 5'6", 140# smooth, athletic  
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Kinky leather top, gym toned,  
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ENJOY SCENES FROM SLOW, SENSUAL  
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UNHURRIED & DISCREET.  
EXPLORE SOMETHING NEW WITH ME!

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29wst**



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Expert. BD/SM. You set the limits.  
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## PERSONALS

## MODELS/ESCORTS

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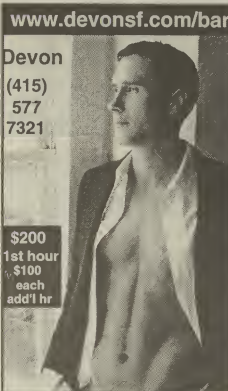


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Blonde blue muscular hott!!  
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5'11" 175# B/GR • MID 30'S • 8" Cut  
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Masc-handsome butch const worker-  
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Anthony nasty vers top  
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5'9", 160 FAT 7 INCH  
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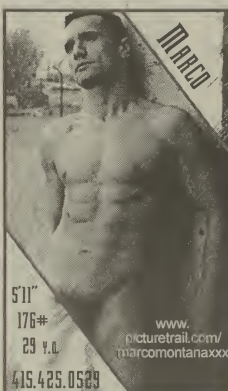
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6'1", 180#  
8x5 cut  
low hangers  
friendly, fun,  
passionate  
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**24 HOURS**  
Brn hr. 9in. 29in waist 305-3003

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Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
Deep throat and young jock ass  
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Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs  
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\$80/\$100 \* JIM 269-5707

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Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk  
In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932

6'2"- 160lbs.-br/bl-hung 7-cutie  
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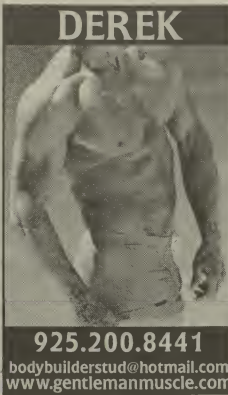
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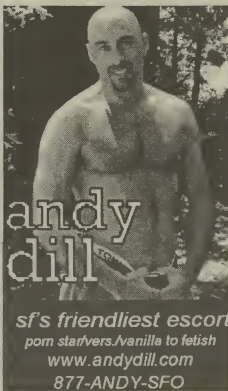
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6-1, 177#, vgl, 9 inch cut  
Page 650-523-9133, and massage

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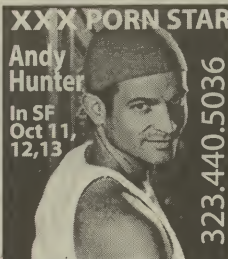
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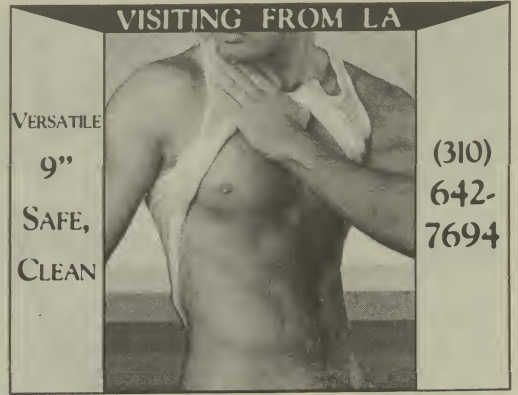
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**CHOKE ON THIS!**  
Gentle strength & arousing edge  
In/Out all Bay Area 415-256-6743

Hot, masculine w/buzzcut & goatee-  
**SHVD.HEAD STUD**  
6ft., ez-go'n'well-hung, big balls  
Clint\*415-540-5311\*in/out. 24hrs.  
See pics-swingonmything@aol.com

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Her- 5'11", 130, 35B-24-35, long  
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City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

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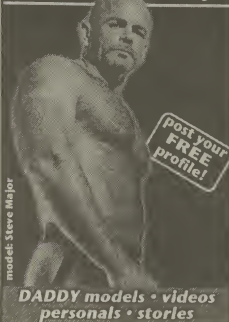
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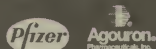
trust

identity

hope

Because I live  
for today,

but think  
for tomorrow.



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